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RUSSELL ERRETT, Editor.

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The Pittsburgh Commercial.

VOL. XIII. PITTSBURGH, FRIDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 10, 1875. NO. 81.

The Daily and Weekly Commercial—Newspaper Decisions. 1. Any one who takes a paper regularly from the Postoffice, whether he has subscribed or not—is responsible for the pay ment.

2. If a person orders his paper discontinued, he must pay all a rrearages, or the publisher may continue to send it until payment is made and collect the whole amount, whether the paper is taken from the office or not.

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FIRST EDITION.

THE DEUTSCHLAND.

ADDITIONAL LIST OF SAVED.

Seventy-Eight Persons Unaccounted For.

Pitiful Condition of Passengers on Monday.

Inquests at Sheerness and Harwich.

An Imputation of Negligence on the Part of the Government.

LONDON, December 9.—The first signals of distress sent up from the wrecked steamer Deutschland were seen by men of the English Coast Guard Service, at six o'clock Monday morning. Several Coast Guardmen turned out and commenced a search for volunteers to go with them in the tugboat Liverpool, of Harwick, and aid them in the attempt at rescue. All to whom they applied refused and now explain their conduct by saying they thought it was only a collier which was lost. Had they known that the distressed vessel had passengers on board they would have gone out. The sea was rough and Harwhich is the only place on the line of the shore without a life-boat. A woman, crazed by despair, hung herself from the roof of the ship's cabin. One man committed suicide by cutting the veins of his wrist. A Swede, saved from the wreck of the steamship Schiller, was drowned. Many of the rescued are severely frostbitten, and some are not expected to recover. At daylight Tuesday morning the dead bodies of the five nuns were seen floating on the water.

ADDITIONAL LIST OF SAVED.

LONDON, December 9.—The following eleven additional names of passengers saved from the Deutschland, are furnished this morning: First cabin, Karl Diederrick; second cabin, Procopi Kadolkoff, of Russia; steerage, Florian Bauerle, Bavaria; George Drettert or Freidirt, of Albany, N. Y.; Anna Hubner, of Reichenberg; Wilhelm Hurge, of Prussia; Mary Steornage, of England; E. Schuester, of New Kirchen; Anton Teichy, of New York; Georgiana Frank, of Bohemia, and Johann Gass, of Jachingen.

It is probable that some others are saved and not identified on account of the confusion of names in transcribing and telegraphing. A child of Anna Ganoelk died on the steamer after leaving the wreck. Altogether about forty of the passengers and fifty of the crew are unaccounted for. The Deutschland will probably become a total wreck.

LATEST ESTIMATE OF THE LOST.

LONDON, December 10.—With the latest information at hand regarding the loss of the steamship Deutschland, it is estimated that at least sixty-eight persons, of whom forty-six were passengers, were drowned.

The latest estimate makes the total number of lives lost on the Deutschland seventy-eight. It is now ascertained that the crew numbered ninety-nine, of whom fourteen were drowned. The Captain admits that he was an hour and a quarter out of his reckoning. The steamer Moselakes the surviving passengers to New York.

INQUEST AT SHEERNESS.

A coroner's inquest has been held at Sheerness on the two bodies found in the quartermaster's boat. The jury refused to adjourn finally until the result of the official inquiry which is held at Harwich, is known. Meantime they have returned an open verdict of "death from exposure," thus leaving the Harwich inquest to fix the responsibility for the disaster.

In the inquest at Harwich, Capt. Brickenstein testified that he signalled passing vessels during Monday, but none answered. Jurymen and others admitted that his signals of distress were seen at Harwich. A juryman stated that the seamen did not feel bound to risk their lives and go to the rescue, having no lifeboat. Traces of this morning's awful facts, if unexplained, cast a disgrace on the English Government.

THE INQUEST AT HARWICH

opened yesterday. The captain and other officers of the Deutschland were examined, but nothing new was elicited. The inquest was adjourned until Tuesday next. Six more dead bodies have been brought ashore at Harwich.

A dispatch from Sheerness says that the Deutschland has broken in two.

FOREIGN NEWS.

BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE.

France.

VOTING FOR LIFE-SENATORS—UNEXPECTED STENGTH OF THE LEFT.

PARIS, December 9.—In the Assembly today, balloting began for the election of seventy-five Senators, who are to hold office for life. Duc d'Audiffret-Pasquier, President, and M. Martiel, First Vice President of the Assembly, were elected. The other candidates obtaining an absolute majority, which is necessary on the first ballot. The Left developed surprising strenth in voting. Their candidates received an average of 325 votes each, against 317, the average number thrown for those of the Right. The members of the Right are astounded at the result.

Spain.

COMMENTS OF MADRID JOURNALS ON GRANT'S MESSAGE.

MADRID, December 9.—The journals of this city comment variously on the message of President Grant, but all hope that Spain will vanquish the insurrection in Cuba by force, energy and perseverance.

MADRID, December 9.—Tuesday morning's paper express the opinion that the portion of President Grant's message on Cuban affairs is no more alarming than his former utterances on the subject. The Conservative journals consider his language serious. The general opinion in political circles is that the message is favorable. The *Epoca* and the *Diario Espagnol* think that intervention is really intended, and believe that Europe would not allow it. Further reinforcements are preparing for Cuba.

GENERAL SABALLS SENTENCED.

HENDAYE, December 9.—A Carlist court martial has sentenced General Saballs to four years' imprisonment.

England.

ANOTHER COLLIERY EXPLOSION.

LONDON, December 9.—An explosion took place to-day in a coal mine at Methley, near Leeds. Six miners were killed.

Marine News.

LONDON, December 9.—Steamship Lord Clive, from Philadelphia, and France, from New York, arrived out.

THE MEXICAN BORDER.

Systematic Stealing of American Cattle.

GALVESTON, December 9.—Brownsville advices state that information has been received that a contract has been made at Monterey for the delivery of 1,500 beeves. One hundred and fifty hides were recently received at Matamoras from Monterey, having American brands. Information from different points along the Rio Grande gives the number of cattle that crossed into Mexico during the last month. The list numbers 1,620, and most of them were driven to Monterey. One herd was taken to Camargo and demanded by Captain King's agent, but the Mexicans refused to deliver them.

NEWS SUMMARY.

BY TELEGRAPH.

Probabilities for To-Day.—For Tennessee, the Ohio and Upper Mississippi Valleys and the Upper Lake region, rising, followed by falling barometer, northwest winds, shifting to warmer southeast and clearing, or clear, followed by cloudy weather.

Water will be kept in the Eastern division of the Erie Canal till further orders.

The steamer Ontario, from Liverpool, has arrived at Boston, and the Othello, from Hull, at New York.

A dispatch from San Diego, California, says a petition is being signed by many asking Congress to extend aid to the Texas Pacific Railroad Company, to enable it to build a competing line to the Pacific.

The election held in Brooke county, West Virginia, to decide whether the county should transfer its stock in the Pittsburgh, Wheeling and Kentucky Railway to the company, to enable it to complete its road, resulted favorably, by a vote of 177 to 22.

The State authorities of Louisiana have given notice that the January interest on the next consolidated bonds will be paid at New Orleans and New York, without rebate, on and after the 15th inst. There is nearly $900,000 in the Treasury to the credit of the interest fund.

Rising Sun Flour
Is the cheapest in the end.

XLIV. CONGRESS.

FIRST SESSION.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 9, 1875.

SENATE.

The standing committees were announced as follows:

Privileges and Elections—Morton (Chairman), Logan, Mitchell, Wadleigh, Cameron, of Wisconsin, McMillan, Saulsbury, Merrimon and Cooper.

Foreign Relations—Cameron, of Pennsylvania (Chairman), Morton, Hamlin, Howe, Frelinghuysen, Conkling, McCreery, Bogy and Eaton.

Finance—Sherman (Chairman), Morrill, of Vermont, Ferry, Frelinghuysen, Logan, Boutwell, Jones, of Nevada, Bayard and Kernan.

Appropriations — Morrill, of Maine (Chairman), Windom, West, Sargent, Allison, Dorsey, Davis, Withers and Wallace.

Commerce — Conkling (Chairman), Spencer, Boutwell, Cameron, of Wisconsin, Burnside, McMillan, Ransom, Dennis and McDonald.

Manufactures—Robertson (Chairman), Booth, Bruce, Englisn and Wallace.

Agriculture—Frelinghuysen (Chairman), Robertson, Harvey, Davis and Jordan.

Military Affairs—Logan (Chairman), Cameron, of Pennsylvania, Spencer, Clayton, Wadleigh, Burnside, Gordon, Randolph and Cockrill.

Naval Affairs—Cragin (Chairman), Anthony, Morrill, of Maine, Sargent, Conover, Norwood and Whyte.

Judiciary — Edmunds (Chairman), Conkling, Frelinghuysen, Wright, Howe, Thurman and Stevenson.

Postoffices and Post Roads—Hamlin (Chairman), Ferry, Dorsey, Jones, of Nevada, Dawes, Paddock, Saulsbury, Maxey and Key.

Public Lands—Oglesby (Chairman), Windom, Harvey, Hamilton, Paddock, Booth, Kelly, McDonald and Jones, of Florida.

Private Land Claims—Thurman (Chairman), Bayard, Bogy, Edmunds and Christiancy.

Indian Affairs—Allison (Chairman), Oglesby, Morrill, of Maine, Ingalls, Clayton, Bogy and McCreery.

Pensions—Ingalls (Chairman), Allison, Hamilton, Booth, Bruce, McDonald and Withers.

Revolutionary Claims—Stevenson (Chairman), Johnson, Goldthwaite, Morrill, of Vermont, and Wright.

Claims—Wright (Chairman), Mitchell, Wadleigh, Christiancy, McMillan, Cameron, of Wisconsin, Caperton, Cockrill and Jones, of Florida.

District of Columbia—Spencer (Chairman), Hitchcock, Dorsey, Ingalls, Robertson, Merriman and English.

Patents—Wadleigh (Chairman), Windom, Dawes, Johnson and Kernan.

Public Buildings and Grounds—Morrill, of Vermont (Chairman), Cameron, of Pennsylvania, Paddock, Cooper and Whyte.

Territories—Hitchcock (Chairman), Cragin, Patterson, Christiancy, Sharon, Cooper and Maxey.

Railroads—West (Chairman), Hitchcock, Cragin, Howe, Hamilton, Mitchell, Dawes, Ransom, Kelly, Caperton and Eaton.

Mines and Mining—Sargent (Chairman), Hamlin, Alcorn, Harvey, Sharon, Goldthwaite and Randolph.

Revision of Laws of United States—Boutwell (Chairman), Alcorn, Christiancy, Caperton and Wallace.

Education and Labor—Patterson (Chairman), Morton, Morrill, of Vermont, Burnside, Bruce, Sharon, Gordon, Maxey and Key.

Civil Service and Retrenchment—Clayton (Chairman), Wright, Oglesby, Alcorn, Patterson, McCreery and Randolph.

To Audit and Control Contingent Expenses of Senate—Jones, of Nevada (Chairman), Dawes and Dennis.

Printing—Anthony (Chairman), Sherman and Saulsbury.

Library—Howe (Chairman), Edmunds and Ransom.

Rules—Ferry (Chairman), Hamlin and Merrimon.

Engrossed Bills—Bayard (Chairman), Withers and Anthony.

Enrolled Bills—Conover (Chairman), Robertson and Kelly.

Levees of the Mississippi River—Alcorn (Chairman), Clayton, Harvey, Cooper and Cockrill.

To Examine the Several Branches of the Civil Service—Boutwell (Chairman), Conkling, Allison, Merriman and Eaton.

Transportation Routes to the Seaboard—Windom (Chairman), Sherman, West, Conover, Mitchell, Burnside, Norwood, Davis and Johnston.

Mr. BAYARD said that on behalf of the minority of the Senate he desired to express regret that upon the Committee on Finance, numbering nine members, they had not been allowed the same proportion which the sense of justice on the part of the majority had given the minority on the other committees. At this time, considering the importance of the duties of that committee, the number of the minority on the floor and their share of responsibility in moulding legislation in regard to the finances, the ratio deemed by the majority and minority a just one upon the other committees should prevail upon this committee. He had understood, however, that two members of the Finance Committee, the Senator from Illinois (Logan) and the Senator from Nevada (Jones) would be here soon, and upon their arrival it was proposed to consider the subject of allowing the minority a greater representation. He hoped the proposition would be carried out.

It was ordered that the bills and memorials presented yesterday be taken from the table and referred to the appropriate committees.

Mr. INGALLS presented the petition of the widow of A. J. Short, late Deputy United States Surveyor, asking an appropriation of ten thousand dollars compensation for the loss of her husband, who was killed by Indians while surveying lands in Kansas.

Mr. MAXEY presented the memorial of the Texas Constitutional Convention in relation to depredations on the people of the Texas frontier by bands of marauders, organized beyond the limits of the State. Referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. COOPER presented the memorial of book agents of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, asking to be compensated for the loss of property at Richmond, Va., and Louisville, Ky., during the war. Referred to the Committee on Claims.

It was ordered that when the Senate adjourned to-day it be to meet on Monday next.

Mr. WEST presented a letter from W. L. McMillan, of Louisiana, asking permission to withdraw his credentials as Senator elect from the State of Louisiana by the McEnery Legislature. He submitted an order that the request for the withdrawal of papers be granted, but objection was made by several Senators on the Democratic side and it was laid over.

Mr. CONKLING introduced a bill to amend the act creating a tribunal to adjudicate the Geneva award. Referred to the Judiciary Committee. It repeals so much of the twelfth section of the act as excludes insurance companies, and allows them to participate in the award. It also extends the time of the court for a period sufficient to enable it to hear and dispose of such additional claims, such period not to exceed one year from the expiration of the time for filing claims under this act.

Mr. SHERMAN introduced a bill to extend the duration of the court for the adjudication of claims arising out of the Geneva award. Referred to the Judiciary Committee.

Mr. INGALLS introduced a bill to amend the act of July 2, 1864, to aid in the construction of a railroad and telegraph line from the Missouri river to the Pacific ocean. It provides that the failure or omission of either of the Pacific railroad companies to pay the costs of surveying lands to which they are entitled under Congressional grants, or to take patents for them, shall not exempt such lands from local taxation, but they shall be subject to taxation by States and Territories, upon the evidence of such fact, to be thereby made the duty of the Commissioner of the General Land Office to prepare and furnish to the Governor of any State or Territory who may apply for the same, showing what lands pertain to the respective railroad grants in their respective State or Territorial limits.

Mr. BOGY introduced a bill authorizing the payment of duties on imports in legal-tenders and national bank notes. It provides that on and after July 4, 1876, duties on imports may be paid in legal-tenders and national bank notes or coin, at the option of the importer.

Mr. BOGY said it was not his intention at this time to discuss the merits of the bill, but he looked upon it as a measure tending to specie resumption, and in his opinion it was the only way the country would ever attain resumption. He offered the bill so as to prepare the way for this operation. The only way to the resumption of specie payment was by appreciating the paper now in circulation. He was not in favor of any increase of paper currency, but he wished to appreciate that paper. As long as the country had the system of national banks, whether it was a wise one or not, it seemed to him that it was the duty of Congress to give that paper as much value as possible. He desired the amount of legal-tenders now in circulation to remain as at present. He looked upon any contraction of the currency as ruinous to the country. He thought the bill submitted by him could be explained as the only measure which could possibly lead to resumption, and at the proper time he would endeavor to explain it.

Mr. MORRILL, of Vermont, said he would not discuss this measure now, but after the statement of the Senator from Missouri [Bogy] he [Morrill] deemed it proper to make a counter statement. It was perfectly clear that the measure which the Senator proposed would be one of contraction. It would at once drive out of the country what little specie was now here. When there was no use for specie it became a commodity, and would be exported. The passage of this bill would be a violation of the public faith, and he was sorry to see that this was the first proposition in regard to the finances brought into the Chamber. Should the bill be passed it would reduce the revenues at least twenty-five per cent. The very salvation of the country depended upon a strict adherence to the pledges of the Government.

The bill was referred to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. MORTON submitted a resolution to amend the Twenty-fifth rule of the Senate so that bills may be introduced without previous notice, and that it should not be necessary to state on the minutes that permission had been asked or obtained to introduce a bill without such notice. Mr. MORTON said it cost several hundred dollars ever session to print these formal words in the *Record*, and he saw no use in it. Referred.

After an executive session the Senate adjourned till Monday.

CROOKED WHISKY.

Trial of Deputy Collector Hill at Indianapolis—Bingham Brothers Awaiting Sentence—Brasher Bailed—General Babcock Indicted at St. Louis—Letter from the Grand Jury to President Grant—Milwaukee Cases.

INDIANAPOLIS, December 9.—The trial of Jas. K. Hill, Deputy Revenue Collector of the First district, was commenced in the United States Court, to-day, before Judge Gresham. A motion made by the defendant's counsel to quash the indictment on an alleged defect in three separate counts of the written instrument, was overruled and a jury empaneled. Deputy District Prosecutor Hoistein then made a detailed statement of the process of distilling spirits and the general arrangements of the distillery where these whisky irregularities have been carried on so long and successfully. The Prosecutor then set forth the history of the Indiana whisky conspiracy, which he observed was an outgrowth of the St. Louis ring and has been successfully organized since 1873. The defendant has been in the employ of the Government, in the capacity of Deputy Revenue Collector of the First district, and the charge against him is that of having been a conspirator with certain distillers who were defrauding the Government out of money. It will be shown in evidence, he said, that the defendant was a party to the whisky ring, and for his connection with and conniving at the procedures of the organized clique received a monthly allowance from them of $150; that he has given information in advanced of the approach of Government officers to these distillers, by which means everything was found in proper shape on the arrival of these officials. The prosecution further proposes to show that on one occasion Hill was sent by his superior, General Veach, to look after some irregularity at one of the distilleries included within the ring, but instead of making any inquiry the deputy merely went to the premises and, after loitering about awhile, returned to Evansville with the information that everything was correct. For this report he received $100.

W. P. Fishback, attorney for Mr. Hill, in stating the cause of his client to the jury, expressed his surprise at the sweeping assertions the counsel for the prosecution had made relative to the character and integrity of Mr. Hill, which he maintained perjured parties had conspired to break down and destroy. Mr. Fishback put considerable stress upon the fact that the defendant was indicted solely on the evidence of parties who had pleaded guilty to defrauding the Government of its just dues, and in doing so they have virtually confessed themselves to be perjurers. Men that can lie continually for three years will not hesitate to swear falsely in this court, if thereby they can secure the conviction of an innocent party. The testimony of these perjured persons will amount to nothing in a court of justice, unless their evidence is corroborated by outside parties. Counsel said they proposed putting the District Prosecutor and his Deputy up in the witness stand to testify as to the earnest and determined efforts of the defendant in working up these whisky cases and placing before the Grand Jury important information upon which the guilty parties were indicted.

Only two other witnesses, out of about forty, for the prosecution were examined before the court adjourned.

THE BINGHAM BROTHERS

appeared in person in court this morning and, until the remaining parties who have pleaded guilty to defrauding the Government, are waiting sentence by the Court, which will be passed after the Hill case is settled.

LOUIS B. BRASHER,

arrested at Cincinnati, charged with complicity in the Evansville frauds, was released to-day on $25,000 bail.

GENERAL BABCOCK INDICTED.

ST. LOUIS, December 9.—The United States Grand Jury, which has been in session since November 2, adjourned to-day, after presenting thirteen new indictments to the court. Although it has not been officially announced, there seems to be no doubt that one of these indictments is against General Babcock, President Grant's Private Secretary, and that a capias for his arrest was sent to Chicago to-night. Of the other indictments it is understood that none is of any significance, they being principally against persons charged with counterfeiting, forgery, &c.

MR. HENDERSON'S STATUS.

At this writing, half-past ten o'clock, it can be said upon good authority that no dispatch has been received by General Henderson relieving him from further service in the prosecution of whisky cases here, as intimated in the Washington dispatches to-night.

THE GRAND JURY TO THE PRESIDENT.

Previous to the adjournment of the Grand Jury to-day, nineteen of the jurors, all who were present at the time, residents of all parts of this district and a number of them Democrats, signed the following letter, which was sent to its destination:

UNITED STATES GRAND JURY ROOM, ST. LOUIS, December 9, 1875.

To U. S. Grant, President of the United States, Washington, D. C.:

The undersigned, late United States Grand Jurors for the Eastern district of Missouri, in the discharge of their sworn duty, have found it imperative upon them to send to the United States Court of said district the names of many officials and other persons as being connected with a conspiracy to defraud the revenue of the United States. As citizens of our common country, sincerely desiring to uphold the hands of the Chief Executive in securing an honest collection of the public revenue, we cannot refrain from thus testifying to our estimate of the moral support which we have leaned upon, as imparted in your notable instruction to the Secretary of the Treasury—"Let no guilty man escape." With this all good citizens can contribute their share in aiding the Government and in sustaining your administration in its endeavor to conduct it with purity and fidelity. We individually and collectively tender to you our highest considerations of esteem and confidence, and an assurance of our appreciation of the wisdom, patriotism and independence displayed in directing the measures necessary for the detection and conviction of the gigantic frauds which have so lately preyed upon the public revenue.

TRIALS AT MILWAUKEE.

MILWAUKEE, December 9.—The case of Burback & Reynolds, rectifyers, being tried for conspiracy, was continued during the day. Nothing of particular importance transpired.

A complaint has been made before Commissioner Bloodgood against Frederick Heck, a brewer in Lacaine. It is charged that he neglected to put stamps on four kegs, and that he removed such unstamped kegs from his brewery. A warrant for his arrest was issued.

CHICAGO.

Babcock's Court of Inquiry Organized.

CHICAGO, December 9.—Lieutenant General Sheridan and Generals Hancock and Terry, composing the Court of Inquiry, appointed at the request of General Babcock, to consider questions raised in the prosecution of the whisky cases at St. Louis affecting his reputation, met at the Palmer House to-day, and decided that the court should hold an open session. Major Gardiner, the recorder, stated that, on account of the lack of witnesses, nothing could be done to-day, and the court accordingly adjourned till noon to-morrow.

NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, December 9, 1875.

FIRE AT FIVE POINTS—LOSS $320,000.

The buildings Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4 Mission Place, and the rear buildings Nos. 58 and 60 Park street, and Nos. 148, 150 and 152 Worth street were burned early this morning, involving a total loss of about $320,000, mostly insured. The principal losers are as follows: M. A. Taylor, $50,000; Darrow & Son, $25,000; Donaldson Brothers, $130,000; New York Newspaper Union, $65,000; Dun, Barlow & Co., $10,000; H. S. Archer, $10,000; George Duboise, $40,000. The House of Industry and the Mission House narrowly escaped. Several of the adjoining buildings were much damaged, mainly by water. Only buildings, like their occupants, were insured.

MURDERER OF MR. NOE RESPITED.

In the case of John Dolan, sentenced to be hanged to-morrow for the murder of Mr. Noe, Governor Tilden to-night granted a respite of one week, to give time to investigate newly discovered evidence. A motion for a new trial will be made.

Rising Sun Flour
In bags and barrels to-day.

SECOND EDITION.

WASHINGTON.

Silver Resumption in the United States

Importance of the Brussels Monetary Convention next Month.

Operations at Virginia City Mines to be Resumed in February.

Work at the Mint Continued --As to Locating the Branch Mint.

Speech of Ex-Senator Henderson in the Avery Trial.

Some Reported Extracts Distasteful to the Attorney General.

McMillan Withdraws from the Louisiana Senatorial Contest.

Pinchback Now Entitled to His Seat and $20,000 Back-Pay.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 9, 1875.

Monetary Convention at Brussels.

The action of the Monetary Convention, consisting of representatives from France, Belguim, Italy and Switzerland, to be held in Brussels early in January, at which the amount of silver to be coined in those countries during the year 1876 will be agreed upon, will have an important bearing upon silver resumption in the United States. The restriction which confined the five franc silver coinage to about twenty-eight millions of dollars for each year, will probably be continued, to guard against the apprehended influx from the large sum which has been demonetized in Germany. The effect will be that the continuance of the present restrictions in those countries will naturally lessen the demand and lower the price. With the relation of gold to silver in the coinage system of France, her monetary allies are as one to fifteen and a half, while the commercial relation is about one to seventeen.

Operations at the Mint.

The latest information from the mines at Virginia City report the restoration of the destroyed works and a readiness to resume in full in February. The work at the mint has been kept up, despite the decreased supply, by running on the silver coins. Last month over four and one-half millions of ten-cent pieces were coined. The amount during the present month will be the same.

Location of the Branch Mint.

Dr. Linderman, Director of the Mint, will submit his report on the establishment of a branch mint in the Mississippi Valley to the President early next week. Chicago and St. Louis both present advantages, and doubtless one of these cities will be selected. The President has a great deal of the question when the resolution passed, thought Chicago the most fit place.

St. Louis Whisky Trials—Speech of Attorney for the Government.

Some extracts from the closing speech of ex-Senator Henderson, counsel for the Government in the Avery trial, have been sent to the President and the Attorney General. These extracts not only denounce the whisky ring and General Babcock's alleged connection with the ring, but the language used in them is personally disrespectful to the President. The President does not think it necessary to take any notice of these extracts, but the Attorney General, under whose direction Mr. Henderson was employed to assist the prosecution, is of the opinion that if Mr. Henderson did use such language it is not proper for him to continue in his present relations toward the Government. According to the mail received this morning at Appatch to Mr. Henderson, directing his attention to the report of his remarks and informing him that if he used such language he would please consider that his services were no longer required by the Government. Mr. Henderson telegraphed back that the language attributed to him had not been used in his speech, and that he would forward by mail a correct copy of his remarks. The Attorney General thereupon directed that Mr. Henderson continue to act for the Government until further notice, and the matter will rest until the copy sent by Mr. Henderson is read. Below will be found some of the allusions reported to have been made to the President: "What right has the President to interfere with Commissioner Douglass in the proper discharge of his duties? Now, why did Douglass bend the supple hinges of the knees and permit any interference by the President? He [Douglass] was not bound to listen to dictation from the President, Babcock or any other officer."

McMillan Withdraws—Pinchback can be Sworn in.

The withdrawal of McMillan from the contest for a seat in the Senate from Louisiana, has the effect to give Pinchback a right to be sworn in on his credentials, and any investigation of his right to a seat in that case will come afterward. The accumulated pay to which Pinchback will be entitled is $20,000.

Help For Disappointed Officeseekers.

Those State delegations dissatisfied with the subordinate appointments in the House talk of taking advantage of the right of the Speaker to approve them. They expect to have many rejected so as to make place for their own friends.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 9, 1875.

NOMINATIONS BY THE PRESIDENT.

The President sent to the Senate to-day a very large number of nominations, almost all of them being appointments made during the recess. Among them are the following: Zachariah Chandler, to be Secretary of the Interior; Christian Wullweber, of Iowa, to be Minister Resident to Ecuador; John C. New, of Indiana, Treasurer of the United States; James B. Barkham, of Kentucky, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury; John Q. Smith, of Ohio, Commissioner of Indian Affairs. Daniel Ammen, Chief of Bureau of Navigation; Commodore L. D. Trenchard, Rear Admiral; G. W. Avery, of Tennessee, Governor of Utah; S. B. Axtell, of California, Governor of New Mexico; John H. Bartlett, Surveyor General of Nebraska and Iowa; Mark Tilton, Pension Agent at Madison, Ind.; E. C. Watkins, Inspector of Indian Affairs; Thos. C. W. Edward, of Iowa, one of the Examiners-in-Chief of Patent Office; Ferdinand Myer, A. C. Matthews, Thos. J. Brady and G. B. Chamberlain, Supervisors of Internal Revenue. Collectors of Internal Revenue—Chas. M. Lynch, Nineteenth district Pennsylvania; Jos. D. Webster, First district Illinois; Thos. J. Kinney, Ninth district Illinois; Chas. B. Pottengill, Eighteenth Ohio; J. M. Bean, Fifth Wisconsin; L. B. Trowbridge, First Michigan; R. T. Vanhorn, Sixth Missouri; J. H. Sturgess, First Missouri; W. S. Holden, Sixth Kentucky; W. F. Green, Sixth Tennessee. Collector of Customs—Joseph R. Jones, district of Chicago. Appraisers of Merchandise—Barlour Lewis, Memphis; L. S. Howlett, Louisville; R. C. Feldkump, Chicago. Consuls—L. E. Tyler, of Tennessee, Odessa; Joseph Knotts, of Iowa, Chipuas; Eugene Schuyler, Secretary of Legation to Turkey and Consul General at Constantinople. Postmasters—Clinton Spencer, Ypsilanti, Mich.; Edwin Longyear, East Saginaw, Mich.; W. P. Forsythe, Jefferson, Wis.; W. C. Garber, Madison, Ind.; B. W. Davis, Richmond, Ind.; D. D. Taylor, Cambridge, Ohio; Jay Simmons, Jacksonville, Ill.; W. C. Snyder, Fulton, Ill.; S. G. Smith, Peru, Ill.; Chas. H. Toll, Clinton, Iowa; N. P. Sunderland, Burlington, Iowa; David Day, St. Paul, Minn.; Luke Marvin, Duluth, Minn.; John G. Compton, Columbus, Neb. These nominations were confirmed by the Senate in executive session.

STATISTICS OF IMMIGRATION.

Returns made to the Bureau of Statistics show the following arrivals of immigrants at the port of New York during the month ended November 30, 1875 and 1874, respectively:

	Males.	Females.	Total.
November, 1875	2,196	2,705	4,901
November, 1874	4,811	4,044	8,855
Decrease	2,016	1,848	3,954

The following are the principal countries of last permanent residence or citizenship:

	Nov., 1875.	Nov., 1874.
England	369	1,631
Scotland	144	218
Wales	21	59
Ireland	684	1,299
Germany	1,956	3,206
Austria	188	452
Sweden, Norway and Denmark	139	226
France	223	367
Italy	227	175
Russia	230	670
Switzerland	99	169
Spain	25	37
Holland	54	75

CASUALTIES.

Mistaken for a Turkey and Killed.

INDIANAPOLIS, December 9.—Franklin Shaffer, a young man living near Argos, Ind., was shot and instantly killed by Ira Starkey this afternoon, while turkey-hunting, Starkey mistaking him for a turkey.

PHILADELPHIA.

Moody and Sankey Meeting Last Night.

PHILADELPHIA, December 9.—The Moody and Sankey meeting to-night was crowded, eight or nine thousand people being in the building. Among those present were ex-Senator John Scott and John V. Farwell, of Chicago. Mr. Sankey, during the evening, sang several of his most popular hymns. Mr. Moody's discourse was on Repentance, and he took his text from Acts xvii, 30, "But now God commandeth men everywhere to repent." The preacher called his hearers' attention to the various kinds of repentance. With the command to repent God gives us power to do so, and he considered that true repentence is where a man is thoroughly convinced of his sin. During the evening a large number of persons went into the inquiry room. The usual prayer meetings were held after the regular exercises.

BUFFALO.

Failure of Lymburner & Torrey.

BUFFALO, December 9.—A meeting of the creditors of Lymburner & Torrey, extensive deslers in roans and linings, and manufacturers of sheep-skins, who suspended yesterday, has been called for Tuesday next. Meantime the works continue under their direction. Dullness in trade and the failure of their creditors are supposed to be the causes of their failure. Their liabilities are estimated at $185,000, and their assets at $100,000.

CRIMINAL RECORD.

Drover Robbed by Highwaymen.

DETROIT, December 9.—A *Tribune* Adrian, Michigan, special reports that Asa W. Kennedy, a well known stock drover, arrived from Buffalo, last night, with $1,600, the proceeds of cattle sold. He was robbed of the entire amount on his way home, two miles west of town, and seriously injured by the highwaymen.

Arrest of Treasurer of Saratoga County, N. Y.

SARATOGA, December 9.—Henry A. Mann, the alleged defaulting County Treasurer of Saratoga county, was arrested at one o'clock this morning, by the Sheriff, at the Hollister Spa. The Board of Supervisors have found notes to the amount of $118,000 issued and signed by Mann as County Treasurer without authority.

Brasher's Brother Wanted in Indianapolis.

CINCINNATI, December 9.—Louis B. Brasher, of this city, brother of Perry Brasher, ex-revenue officer at St. Louis, was arrested yesterday by the United States Marshall upon an indictment issued by the Grand Jury in Indianapolis for conspiring to defraud the Government of revenue.

Arrests in Lebanon for Passing Counterfeit Money.

LEBANON, PA., December 9.—A number of parties have been arrested here for passing five and ten dollar counterfeit bills on the First National Bank of Penn, Illinois.

POLITICAL.

California.

INAUGURAL OF GOVERNOR IRWIN.

SAN FRANCISCO, December 9.—Governor Irwin was inaugurated to-day, with the usual ceremonies. His inaugural urged the Legislature to bring the influence of the State to bear on the General Government to procure a modification of the treaty with China, with a view to the restriction of Chinese immigration; also that the State should demand the return of the country to specie payments at the earliest possible moment.

TELEGRAPHIC PERSONALS.

Paul Frederic Emil Leopold, Prince of Lippe-Detmold, Germany, is dead.

Samuel D. Frank was yesterday appointed Gauger for the Fourth Ohio revenue district.

Professor Hill, of Calhoun county, Alabama, was yesterday elected Superintendent of Public Instruction by the Joint Convention of the Legislature.

Miss Hattie McKay, stepdaughter of Adin, the Cleveland murderer, died last night of the injuries received at Adin's hands last Saturday. Mrs. Benton's condition is unchanged. Slight hopes are entertained of her recovery.

General Geo. E. Williams, formerly Deputy Commissioner of Internal Revenue, is in Washington, *en route* for Europe as Commissioner of the Imperial Government of Japan. He is accompanied by Japanese officers of rank, Tomito and Minani. The mission has reference to financial and commercial matters.

OUR WATER WORKS

Another Break Down—Both Engines Disabled—Scarcity of Water To-night.

Citizens must have noticed, last evening, that there was a scarcity of water and we advise until further notice economy in its use. Yesterday from about nine o'clock in the morning both engines were out of service and at two o'clock but eleven feet of water remained in the basin. The trouble is stated as follows: on Wednesday morning at an early hour, the engine Samson the largest at the lower works was disabled by the breaking of the wrist of the T head. Superintendent Atkinson, fortunately, had a duplicate piece, and immediately commenced the work of repairing the break. In order to keep up a limited supply, the remaining engine, "Hercules," was worked with increased velocity. About nine o'clock yesterday morning "Hercules" suddenly let down, the break being exactly similar to that which disabled the Samson with the addition of the breaking of the pitman strap.

The stoppage of the pumps allowed the water from the river and the springs known to exist beneath, to run in and fill up the pit, so that the breaks could not be reached to make repairs. Mr. Atkinson sent requests to Pittsburgh for Mr. Will, son of the Board of Fire Commissioners and the Chief Engineers of the Department for the use of an engine to pump out the water while he could get ready stationary pumps for the purpose. The request was complied with as speedily as possible and from three o'clock in the afternoon the "Thomas Rees" engine having been got in position between the two water works engines was at work. Mr. Brauns' evacuator was also tried but the lift, forty feet was too great for it. The Superintendent has pumped millions of gallons per day runs into the pit so that there was steady work of some hours before the fireman to empty it. Mr. Atkinson expects to have repairs made by this morning, it requiring about six hours to make them, after the water is got out.

Robert Emmett.

Mrs. M. M. Warde's dramatization of the scenes surrounding the historic career of Robert Emmett, the celebrated Irish patriot, was produced last evening at Library Hall to a fair audience, by the Philomathic Circle. The production was exceedingly well received, and the performanced proved thoroughly satisfactory in almost every respect. The play has been under rehearsal but about five weeks, and, of course, the stage machinery could not be expected to work very smoothly. Considering the fact that the Philomaths are not thorough professionals, their presentation of the play was exceedingly creditable. Of the drama itself, we can commend it as a fine literary production.

Scarcity of Water—Notice to Consumers

The Samson and Hercules engines have been disabled, and notice is hereby given that there will be no water to-day for manufacturing purposes. Manufacturers are hereby notified not to run their shops to-day. Private consumers will use water as econom

The Commercial.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1875.

FERNANDO WOOD is reported unwell. Troubled with chill-Blaine, perhaps.

THE Democratic press needn't chuckle so offensively because its party has at length got the numbers in one of the branches of Congress. The Republicans have the brains.

THE talismanic utterances of the President, in his message, on the public school question, have evoked a general hiss from the Democratic organs. The serpent begins to show its fangs.

BISHOP HAVEN, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, may be, and doubtless is, a safe and capable spiritual teacher, but he is entirely out of place as a political counsellor. The Ship of State will reach its haven without any of his piloting.

THAT young CHERRY was not guilty of embezzlement at the Sandusky postoffice, after all. The readiness with which these charges are made against innocent men is one of the things to be reformed in the management of the Postoffice Department.

A LOCAL contemporary demands that the ex-Confederates in Congress shall be afforded fair and unhindered opportunity to prove their good intentions. No one seeks to estop them. Charity for the past is willingly conceded, but there must be no fresh investiture for the future.

THE Memphis *Avalanche* is of opinion that Congressman LAMAR can "spread out over more surface without getting thin than any other public man in Mississippi." Then may Heaven pity the rest. His most elaborate efforts are simply like the soap-bubbles which children blow for their amusement—pretty to look at, but only bubbles, after all.

IF THE New York *World* is really sincere in its expressed belief that the election of Speaker KERR will add five hundred thousand to the Democratic ballot boxes at the Presidential election next year, that paper ought logically to insist upon his selection as the standard bearer of the Democratic party in that contest. They will most assuredly need all the votes they can get, whether by fair means or foul.

SENATOR CAMERON, of Wisconsin, is not a believer in the third term project. He said to a reporter of the Chicago *Times*, "I am not in favor of a third term, and I think a majority of the people of Wisconsin and of the country entertain the same view. I do not think Mr. GRANT desires or expects the nomination." We advise Senator CAMERON, of Wisconsin, to open his eyes and look at what is going on all around him.

PRESIDENT PORTER, of Yale College, is a practical temperance man, and an unwavering friend of the temperance cause. Yet he is quoted by the New Haven *Palladium* as having asserted at a meeting of women of that city last Sunday evening to further the temperance movement, that a "great mistake had been made in attempting to deal with the temperance question by public act." There is food in this for unprejudiced and careful reflection.

THE New York papers are all in favor of subsidies to New York steamship lines; and they were all, at the time, in favor of the subsidies to the Union Pacific Railroad Company, because it led to New York, directly; but they are all opposed to any subsidies to the Southern Pacific road. A subsidy to a New York steamship line is all right; but a subsidy to the Southern Pacific is a "steal." The difference consists in the fact that the Southern Pacific is not a New York enterprise.

THERE are forty-seven regular standing committees in the United States House of Representatives, besides select committees on the Centennial and the Washington Monument, regents of the Smithsonian Institute, and trustees of the Institution for the Deaf and Dumb of the District. Considerable dissatisfaction is already expressed over the tardiness of Speaker KERR in making up these committees. He is expected to deliver the goods to the men who have purchased, and they are hard masters.

ALL the officers of the House, at Washington, are said to be friends of THURMAN for the Presidency. It is also said that the Western and Southern Democrats have served notice on their Eastern brethren that the next Democratic candidate for President must come from the West. If this be so, THURMAN would seem to have stolen a march on HENDRICKS and PENDLETON. We are sorry for TILDEN and the cause of "reform" of which he is the great embodiment; but we are much more sorry for BLACK, the great thorpenning claim man, whose Americanism has extorted the admiration even of the Milwaukee *Sentinel*. It is sad to see so great an old hunks as BLACK made to give way to such a political pistareen as THURMAN.

THE Washington correspondent of the Chicago *Tribune* states that the ex-Confederate members of Congress, with the aid of those Southern Congressmen who took no active part, civil or military, in the war, are bent on securing three things:

First—The funding of the war debts of the States which were in rebellion at four per cent. interest, and a reduction of the interest on the national debt of the United States to four per cent.

Second—The pensioning of sick and wounded Confederate soldiers, and of the widows and children of those who fell in defense of the "Lost Cause."

Third—The rearrangement of the stars on the national flag on a St. Andrew's cross, as the thirteen stars representing the Confederate States were arranged on the union of the Confederate flag.

These three propositions, the correspondent states, are to be strongly urged, and he says a fight will be waged against the passage of the bill making appropriations for the payment of pensions to Union soldiers, widows and orphans, unless the Southern pensioners are also placed on the rolls.

DURING the last twenty or twenty-five years Russia has added many millions to her national debt, the lenders having been chiefly English capitalists. It appears that the latter, who have of late lost enormously in Turkish bonds, are now beginning to be apprehensive lest their investments in Russian bonds should prove equally insecure. Year after year the budget of that country shows a deficit, and, were it not for the loans raised at frequent intervals, it would be impossible to pay the interest on the sums previously borrowed. Of course there must be an end to this spendthrift policy some day or another, and there is a growing feeling in England that that time is close at hand. It is intimated, as a consequence, that when Russia makes her next appeal to the London money market, she will not find as prompt a response as she has done in the past. Possibly, if she cannot raise money in England, she may turn to this country and test the strength of the sympathy heretofore shown towards her, by requesting a loan from Uncle SAM. Stranger things have happened.

THE professions of reform, under guise of which Governor TILDEN, of New York, hopes to attain a Presidential nomination, are meeting with a severe test in the case of TWEED. If the Governor is in earnest, and is a real and not a mere mock reformer, he must show his earnestness and purity of purpose by bringing to a speedy and adequate punishment the Tammany office holders who connived at and permitted TWEED's escape. So far, not a thing has been done. The Warden and Jailor go about the streets of New York unmolested, and the Sheriff is not brought to book. The escape is treated by all, from the Governor down, as a mere matter of course. The Mayor was conveniently, and, it is presumable, purposely absent when the escape took place; the police look on unconcerned; the courts preserve an ominous silence; and the Governor seems utterly oblivious of the fact that the treatment accorded to this Democratic thief is a burning disgrace to both city and State.

Thief and felon as he was, TWEED maintained until the last his membership in Tammany. His name and that of SAMUEL J. TILDEN stand not very far apart on the rolls of that secret Democratic society. His crimes did not unfit him for membership, there, nor for association, upon equal terms, with the man who impudently offers himself as a "reform" candidate for President. If now, the Governor refuses to follow up and punish the guilty promoters of TWEED's escape, he will prove to the world that party is, with him, superior to honesty; that the secret affiliations of Tammany are more powerful than all his professions of *reformy*" and that the political associate of TWEED cannot promote "reform" of any kind except in the wrong direction.

TRAMPS.

The cities of Ohio, which conferred together on the 8th inst. at Columbus, in reference to the proper treatment of Tramps, have fallen back, as was anticipated, upon the plan of treating all Tramps as vagrants and punishing them as such by sentences to the workhouses of the respective counties or cities. This seems to be the only practicable plan at present. Furnishing food and transportation gratuitously to these people only serves to increase their numbers and to perpetuate an evil that needs instant eradication.

If the cities of Ohio adopt the suggestions of this convention, as they probably will, their example will have to be followed by the cities of all the other States, otherwise the Tramps will be shrewd enough to avoid Ohio altogether, to its great relief, and concentrate their attention upon States that are not so particular. The line of treatment must be general, or it will not be effective. Ohio has taken care of herself, and it remains for her sister States to co-operate with her.

We may add that if a similar plan of treatment is adopted here by our county and city authorities, the people must work with them in the effort to suppress this nuisance, and they must make up their minds to shut down resolutely upon the demands made upon them at their homes, by wandering mendicants. The great burden of this evil has fallen much more heavily upon the families who are preyed upon by these vagrants than upon the local authorities. It is hard, we know, to refuse a meal to a sturdy beggar, who looks both able and willing to enforce his demands; but firmness and discretion will generally suffice to accomplish what is needed. If individual benefactions are stopped, except in deserving cases, and the authorities exact work in exchange for food and lodging, we can rest easy under the assurance that we are in the right way and in the use of the right means for the extermination of this evil.

The City Poor House and County Home, both of which are taxed severely in the way of furnishing meals and temporary shelter to Tramps, are in sections of the county where limestone is easy of access; and we suggest to the managers of those places that the Tramps might be put to work at quarrying limestone and in breaking it up for use on the roads, or in preparing it for conversion into lime. The County Home could then supply itself with the lime it needs for its farm, and it might also macadamize the roads leading to it. We fancy that one winter of such work would cure the Tramps of their inclination to visit this region.

PHILADELPHIA has organized a plan for dispensing charity during the present winter, by which it is proposed to establish ward stations, under the care and management of judicious ladies, who will solicit articles of clothing and food to be stored at their respective stations for the use of the needy. In this manner each ward will be amply provided for, the ladies donating their services. The results of this experiment will be looked forward to with considerable interest. Proper discrimination is made by the almoners between those who are idle and needy from necessity, and those who are lazy and poor from choice, the plan should work well. In this connection the results of an experiment many years ago set on foot for relieving the paupers of Elberfeid, a town near Cologne, in Germany, are too remarkable to be overlooked. The people, finding that if they gave alms freely the poor came to depend upon them and not upon their own efforts, and that if public means for relief were offered the surrounding country presented the picture of an army of unemployed men traveling toward the capital, they divided and subdivided the city under voluntary overseers, with a corps of visitors, who were never permitted to visit more than four families, and sometimes only two. These families were visited every fortnight. The visitors also met once in two weeks to discuss their cases and the methods of relief. Mr. CHARLES BRACE, of the New York Children's Aid Society, from whom these particulars are gathered, says:

"The most particular inquiries were made into every case relieved, whether each person was doing all in his power for his own support, and whether his relatives were obeying the law in contributing toward his maintenance. The object of the visitors was not merely to give alms, but to encourage and advise unfortunate and ignorant people, and thus prevent poverty. The whole system was thus one of close supervision and of moral assistance of the poor by the more comfortable classes. To complete the organization, the overseers themselves met and reported to the poor commissioners of the town and received from them the moneys for out-door relief. The best citizens were found willing to serve gratuitously as visitors or overseers; and indeed, no place was considered one of some honor."

The results of this method are thus stated:

"The theory of the system, it will be observed, is a close house-to-house visitation and careful inspection by citizens serving under officials, whose object is to prevent, not encourage, pauperism. In the year 1853, with a population of 50,354, there were relieved 4,224 paupers. In 1873, with a population of 78,000, the number of paupers relieved was 980; or in other words, before the new plan was introduced, one in in twelve was a pauper, and now one in eighty. The cost has also fallen from about $88,000 in 1847 to about $17,005 in 1873. A still greater reduction would have been shown but for the increased prices of provisions and all commodities during the past few years."

This shows what may be effected by a judicious system of out-door relief, combined with close personal supervision.

Forty-fourth Congress.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

The unfortunate "tidal wave" floated many Bourbon scums into place and power, and secured for the Forty-fourth Congress a majority of "blatant rebels," whose only merit seems to be their distinguished reputation as active rebels of the South, who were noted for their savage cruelty to Union soldiers during the war, or "dough faces of the North," who were too cowardly to fight on either side and whose chief business during the rebellion was that of tossing hats at rebel victories. A majority of sixty-six of this class is too large in a Congress the chief business of which should be to give speedy relief to the business prostration of the country by a wise financial policy, and secure the safety of the institutions of the Republic, by wise constitutional enactments. The temper of the opening session was such as to prove, beyond question, that if it were not for the check of a loyal Senate upon the measures which issue from the Congress, the inevitable amount of damage might be done in a very brief period of legislation. This check is one of the many commendable features in our republican form of government.

It would not be safe to trust the public school question to a party already heartily in sympathy with organizations of the whole system of free schools. This is one of the most important subjects now before the American people, and any one who reads the daily papers of the present day, cannot fail to interpret aright the "hand writing on the wall" upon this question. The enemy must be met *now*, or he will soon prove a monster so powerful with allies, that it will require all the force of the Government to successfully grapple with him. "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure," literally holds good in State affairs. The "ounce" properly administered might have prevented our terrible civil war—nay, would have prevented it. Short-sighted statesmanship, had a salutary effect in New Orleans.)

Mr. Blaine's proposed amendment might prove a palliative, but, as worded, would not effect a cure, because it does not fully reach the seat of the disease. It leaves the great bone of contention, or at least one of the bones of contention, out of the question —the Bible. But there are also other ramifications, which, as it is worded, it would fail to reach; of these and the Bible question, we shall write in a future communication. PUBLIUS.

A Beautiful Arrangement.

One of the instructive correspondents at Washington informs us that the Democratic party is to be governed by a triumvirate. Mr. Kerr, as the honest man, is Speaker; Mr. Randall, as the capable man, is to be Chairman of the Committee on Appropriations and to lead the party on the floor, as "the only man who can beat Jim Blaine;" while Fernando Wood is to have the Ways and Means and be the "Mentor," or, to use a phrase german to the hour, "referee" for the triumvirate. These three gentlemen are to control the party and govern its decisions. The objection which the *World*, the leading organ of the party, made a day or two ago, to the effect that if Mr. Wood or Mr. Randall were elected Speaker he might cost the party a half million of votes, seems to have suddenly died away. We suppose there is nothing in it, and that it was read by one of the electioneering cries of the canvass, which may as well be forgotten now that it has served its purpose. We shall watch the triumvirate with deep interest. The party with one head makes mistakes enough. Let us see how a party with three heads will succeed. —*New York Herald.*

THE New York *Tribune* opposes the Texas and Pacific Railroad. There is nothing strange about this. Jay Gould, who owns the *Tribune*, controls the Union Pacific road, and it would be a sad blow to that enterprise if a road further south, and free from winter embarrassments, should be constructed.—*Williamsport Gazette.*

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

The primal duties shine aloft like stars:
The charities that soothe and heal and bless,
Are scattered at the feet of man like flowers.

New Year's Day will soon be here. Shall it be wine, or coffee?"

Suggestions for Pittsburgh gas companies: "Let your light shine before men."

And now those "mountains of solid gold" in the Black Hills are turning out to be deposits of mica.

Chicago has but four miles less of street water mains than New York. Also nearly as much whisky.

The foolish Wyoming Legislators are fighting over a bill for the repeal of the woman's suffrage act.

Smith succeeds Smith as Indian Commissioner, and his success will be the success of Smith's successor.

Among the latest publications is an essay on the art of kissing. It is said to fairly make one's mouth water.

The new copper mines of Colorado are looming up. This year the shipments of copper ore have aggregated 6,000 tons.

There are now 102 signal stations connected with the United States signal service, which has proved a signal success.

The vote of Louisville at the late election was nearly 21,000; about 4,000 more than ever was polled at any previous election.

The next centennial anniversary of importance is that of Montgomery's unsuccessful attack on Quebec, December 31, 1775.

Growing wiser. The Fall River workmen have had their wages cut down ten per cent., but not one of them has proposed a strike.

Does prohibition prohibit? Massachusetts, with her prohibition laws and vigilant constabulary, last year guzzled 493,338 barrels of beer.

Downing, the negro *restaurateur* in the Capitol, has turned Democrat. The Vicar of Bray is his model, and bread and butter are in his line.

Iowa has a heifer which recently climbed up a ladder into a hay loft. She was probably looking for the cow that jumped over the moon.

As soon as the House is fully organized, ex-Speaker Blaine will bring forward a constitutional amendment relating to public school funds.

An Iowa weekly calls for a "specimen of wood taken on subscription to a county paper that was delivered when promised," for exhibition at the Centennial.

The town of Greeley, Colorado, wraps itself up comfortably over the reflection that ten thousand buffalo hides will be converted into robes there, this winter.

Democracy redivivus. All the Washington letter writers unite in saying there never were such gangs of political bummers visiting that city as at the present time.

The President, in his message, says truely that, "next to the free school the postoffice is the great educator of the people." Now let Congress restore the old postal rates.

The wine product of France this year amounts to 2,000,000,000 gallons, which would fill a ditch three and a half feet wide, and of the same depth, four thousand miles long.

The Khedive of Egypt has recently established a high school for women, containing over two thousand students, similar in many respects to the normal colleges of this country.

Hail, King Gambrinus! The manufacture of malt liquors in the United States has become an enormous industry, yielding the Government an annual revenue of nearly $10,000,000.

Baltimore is bidding heavily for the Western grain trade. A drawback of three cents per cental is offered on all grain received for exportation which passes through the railroad elevators there.

We are asked to believe that a Minnesota hunter last week killed three deer at one shot. They were standing in range, and the bullet fired at one killed the three. That's hard to beat. The tale, we mean.

They talk of carting Horace Greeley's birth-place to the Centennial. The sharp Yankee who owns the old building asks $2,000 for it, when six months ago he would have been glad to have sold it for $200.

White oak timber cannot be procured by England in sufficient quantities and dimensions in Canada, so North Carolina and Tennessee are being resorted to. Black walnut is also in demand for the same quarter.

Awful. Here comes Dr. Ephraim Cutter, a New England doctor, with a fearful array of accusations against flour. He charges that it occasions diseases of the nervous system; early decay of the teeth; weak and diseased eyes; baldness and prematurely gray hair; catarrh, consumption and diminished fecundity. Let's bolt it.

NEW PUBLICATIONS

THE ANNALS OF KANSAS: pp. 691. By D. W. Wilder. Published by George W. Martin, Kansas Publishing House, Topeka, Kansas.

This book, which throughout bears the impress of conspicuous intellectual discernment, forethought, diligence and patience in gathering up, arranging and preserving those fragmentary bits of material which in the course of time become the most indispensable subjects for the building of history, is invaluable to all thoughtful students of American politics in the generic sense of that term, and should find a place alike in every public collection and in every well-equipped private library throughout the country.

The volume is not only a compact, complete and faithful chronological lexicon of those epic events which have made the name of Kansas everywhere famous—it is more. The author and compiler has not only a remarkably close and comprehensive grasp of his facts, but he is also thoroughly imbued with the whole vital spirit of that heroic time which made Kansas great, not for her own exigencies alone, but because her quickened from their drowse to fight on either side and whose chief business during the rebellion was that of tossing hats at rebel victories. A majority of sixty-six of this class is too large in a Congress the chief business of which should be to give speedy relief to the business prostration of the country by a wise financial policy, and secure the safety of the institutions of the Republic, by wise constitutional enactments. The temper of the opening session was such as to prove, beyond question, that if it were not for the check of a loyal Senate upon the measures which issue from the Congress, the inevitable amount of damage might be done in a very brief period of legislation. This check is one of the many commendable features in our republican form of government.

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Mr. Blaine's proposed amendment might prove a palliative, but, as worded, would not effect a cure, because it does not fully reach the seat of the disease. It leaves the great bone of contention, or at least one of the bones of contention, out of the question —the Bible. But there are also other ramifications, which, as it is worded, it would fail to reach; of these and the Bible question, we shall write in a future communication. PUBLIUS.

A Beautiful Arrangement.

One of the instructive correspondents at Washington informs us that the Democratic party is to be governed by a triumvirate. Mr. Kerr, as the honest man, is Speaker; Mr. Randall, as the capable man, is to be Chairman of the Committee on Appropriations and to lead the party on the floor, as "the only man who can beat Jim Blaine;" while Fernando Wood is to have the Ways and Means and be the "Mentor," or, to use a phrase german to the hour, "referee" for the triumvirate. These three gentlemen are to control the party and govern its decisions. The objection which the *World*, the leading organ of the party, made a day or two ago, to the effect that if Mr. Wood or Mr. Randall were elected Speaker he might cost the party a half million of votes, seems to have suddenly died away. We suppose there is nothing in it, and that it was read by one of the electioneering cries of the canvass, which may as well be forgotten now that it has served its purpose. We shall watch the triumvirate with deep interest. The party with one head makes mistakes enough. Let us see how a party with three heads will succeed. —*New York Herald.*

THE New York *Tribune* opposes the Texas and Pacific Railroad. There is nothing strange about this. Jay Gould, who owns the *Tribune*, controls the Union Pacific road, and it would be a sad blow to that enterprise if a road further south, and free from winter embarrassments, should be constructed.—*Williamsport Gazette.*

POLITICAL.

General.

At the municipal elections in Massachusetts on the 7th inst., the Republicans carried Springfield by an increased majority, and were successful in Fall River, Gloucester and Holyoke; in New Bedford, Fitchburg, Newport and Newburyport the Citizens' Independent ticket was elected, while the Democrats carried Haverhill only.

Bishop Haven, of the M. E. Church, who is nothing if not sensational, at a Sunday School Tract Society and Missionary Meeting at Boston, yesterday, nominated Grant for a third term, and the nomination was made unanimous. We suppose it will be unnecessary now to call any National Convention. Bishop Haven's reason is "the public safety." But the public safety would be better served by a Republican candidate who could be elected, than by one who, if he ran for a third term, would be sure of defeat. The settled convictions against a third term would make Grant the weakest candidate the Republican party could nominate.—*Cincinnati Gazette.*

YOUNG TWEED, we are told, was greatly agitated by his father's escape, and willingly joined the officers in "hunting" for the missing prisoner. His zeal must have been equal to that of Sam Weller, when, on the witness-stand, the judge asked him if he saw his father, who had been making a disturbance, in that court-room. "No, sir," says Sam, looking up at the skylight, "I can't say as I do."—*Buffalo Express.*

WAKAN WATEPE.

The Big Medicine Dance of the Sioux Indians—Fraternal Ceremonies—Magnetic Influence—Strange Beliefs.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

"Wakan Watepe" may sound strangely to any one who knows not the significance of the words; but a few moments spent in the perusal of this article will, in a measure, remove their strangeness of sound and meaning. They play a very significant part in the language and superstitions of the Sioux Indians of Northeastern Dakota, for they represent something very dear to them. Literally translated, they stand, "A spiritual tepe dance." Perhaps the word "tepe" is unfamiliar to some; it means *tent, hut* or *lodge*. Therefore, the words rendered in pure English would be, "A spiritual lodge dance;" but by the Sioux a more common word is used synonymously with the literal translation of "Wakan" (spiritual), viz., *medicine*, and the commonly accepted translation of "Wakan Watepe" is "Big medicine dance."

A few words as to how we became informed of their meaning would perhaps not be amiss. Having been invited, last summer, by Captain George W. Yates, Seventh Cavalry, to accompany him on the proposed expedition to the Black Hills, to have been commanded by General G. A. Custer, U. S. A., our preparations were immediately made, and hastening to the "Far West," not many days elapsed before Fort Lincoln, Dakota Territory, "encloused in her walls." Here bitter disappointment awaited us—the expedition had been postponed until the next season, doubtless the then proposed commission at "Spotted Tail" agency being the principal cause. While here we accepted an invitation extended us by First Lieutenant J. F. Weston, Seventh Cavalry, to accompany his command overland to Fort Totten, distant about 190 miles. Our journey was one of novelty, pleasure and excitement, and was greatly enjoyed. Fort Totten is situated on the southeastern extremity of Lake Mini Wakan, or Devil's Lake, Dakota Territory, and is surrounded by a very fertile and picturesque country.

The commanding officer is General Hunt, U. S. A., a very agreeable gentleman. During our stay here Dr. Furgueson, United States Surgeon, very kindly entertained us. Fort Totten affords protection to the reservation for the Mde-wakan-tonwans, a branch of the Sioux nation, on which between two and three thousand Indians live. There is here a large school for the education of the Sioux, under the auspices of the Sisters of Charity, mostly French Canadians. The Indians are taught to read and write in their own language. Dr. Furgueson drove us over a great deal of the reservation, and gave us much information concerning the language and customs of the Sioux, with which he is quite familiar.

During our drive we learned that a "Big medicine dance" was in progress, and attended it. The Doctor very fully explained the purpose and significance of the dance. It seems that among the Sioux, a fraternity somewhat analogous to Freemasonry exists, and the *dance* is their form of initiation, only, unlike Freemasonry, the ceremonies are conducted in public. All the Indians do not belong to it, but only a few, selected on account of some brave deed, or kind action. Both men and women are admitted as "brethren." This chapter, or lodge, is quite large. Five or six, on an average, are initiated annually; but at this time four candidates were to be received. Let us now a description of the affair. First, their "lodge" room: A number of poles, eight feet long, are stuck in the ground at regular distances, so that their tops will rise whose axes measure, respectively, about one hundred and twenty feet, and thirty feet. To these poles, by attaching together, skins and buffalo robes are fastened, forming an inclosure, with a passage way about midway on each side. At each focus of the ellipse a longer and thicker pole, decorated with flowers and leaves, is placed, and at each end of the major axis a sort of canopy is formed, by covering the inclosure at these points with skins. Under these canopies the old and influential chiefs are seated, and around, with their backs to the sides of the inclosure, are seated the members of the fraternity.

Second, the costumes and exercises: The initiatory exercises commence at sundown of the appointed day, and are continued until the sundown of the day following. Refreshments, consisting of coffee, meat, bread, etc., are passed around at stated intervals by "sister" squaws. Of course we had not the pleasure of seeing all the exercises; but with what we saw and had been previously informed of, and a few pertinent and well put questions by the Doctor, we obtained a pretty thorough idea of the performance. The costumes worn by the Indians on this occasion were ludicrous in the extreme. Some had bedecked themselves in calicoes of many patterns and colors. Indeed, "Dolly Vardens" seem to be the rage and style among Indians everywhere. Others were clothed in a half citizen and a half military manner. One conspicuous old fellow was arrayed in a pair of white pantaloons, an old style full-dress military coat, epaulettes included, and a stove-pipe hat, with a feather through the crown and crescents, stars, etc., cut in its sides. All imaginable conglomerations of dress and colors were to be seen here; but space forbids a more detailed description. Suffice it to say that although it was a solemn occasion, our sides were nearly burst with confined laughter.

A speech was being delivered on our arrival, by an old chief called "Medicine Ghost." It seemed to have been more of a prayer of thanks than anything else, as frequent references were made to the bountiful harvests and the abundance of game. Following this was a dance, the music for which was supplied by an *orchestra* consisting of two men, one playing a drum, and tin rattles filled with some hard substance. Nearly the whole "fraternity" participated in the dance, and accompanied the "concord of sweet sounds" with a wild, weird-like song, which really had some music in it, the "bucks" singing the bass, and the squaws the soprano and tenor parts. The step of the dance is a sort of hop, only that no progressive motion is made, the "hoppers" keeping in one position relatively to *terra firma*. After this another speech was made, opposite to the focus where the last had been made. We noticed that all the speeches were made at either one of the foci, undoubtedly symbolical of something. Following this was a young squaw was led in, and surrounded by the brethren, who sang while around her; then the dance was continued, differing from the former in the fact that the young squaw did not participate; she was perhaps being initiated.

Each Indian is supplied with a sack made out of some stuffed animal or bird, which is called the "medicine sack." During the dances these animal manikins are made to go through the motions of their animals' existence. One "chunk" had a goose for a medicine sack, and he made it flap its wings, curve its neck, and paddle its legs. These sacks are believed to exert a wonderful effect on whatever person is touched. Every now and then, "bucks" or squaws would be seen to fall down flat on their faces with an ejaculation like "ugh," as when touched by a sack. The influence which this superstition exerts upon the Indians is mesmeric, and the motions of the persons touched convulsive and painful to witness. It is a strange belief, but not much stranger than some of the "errors" we civilized nations oftentimes fall into. The remainder of the "Wakan Watepe" is materially the same as has been described.

Now, does not this almost mathematical form of arrangement, the order and place of delivery of the speeches, the dancing religious tone of the dance, and the formality of the general features, naturally lead one to the belief that this is no mere dance of amusement, but that everything which transpires is a solemn symbolization of something? "Poor Lo" may be untutored and savage, but let us at least give him the credit of a reverence for something high.

PHI-KAP.

PERSONAL.

Of Charles O'Conor, who is now lying at the point of death, it is said that during a half century of law practice "he has never been known to misstate facts or to present unsound propositions of law."

Ex-Surgeon General Hammond, in a criticism on the report of the examination of the body of the late Vice President, to Dr. Baxter, says that the Vice President's death was not caused by apoplexy, but by the plugging up of some vessel of the brain.

The feminine passion for ferns is something remarkable. Two American ladies in Rio Janeiro, hearing, recently, that there were some beautiful ones to be had on the summit of the neighboring Sugar Loaf Mountain, had themselves lifted by ropes over an abyss 600 feet deep to reach it. They got the ferns.

A Mr. Talbot, of London, Canada, whose name was published in the list of persons who perished with the wreck of the steamer Pacific, astonished his mourning friends at home by appearing suddenly in the midst of them one day last week. He had registered his name on the books of the vessel, but was left behind when she sailed.

The uncounted millions of the late W. B. Astor are to be distributed among his immediate family, excepting bequests giving $200,000 to the Astor Library, $30,000 among certain charitable corporations, $10,000 to the American Bible Society, $10,000 among four faithful employees, on condition that they were in his service at the time of his demise, and $200 a year to the widow of Benjamin Astor.

The shrewd countryman who went to New Haven last week to get his dividend from a savings bank found a great number of people in line before the bank, and concluded he should have to wait all day if he took a position at the end. So he bribed a neighboring peanut vender to take part with him in a mock fight. The people left the line to see the fun, and the countryman availed himself of the chance, and in a few minutes he obtained his money.

Mr. Swoope, of Maryland, wanted to teach school, and when he was declared incompetent he burned the schoolhouse down at one fell swoop. Then the law swooped down upon him.

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International Exposition of 1876.

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(Signed) JOHN WELSH,
President Centennial Board of Finance.
A. T. GOSHORN,
Director General U. S. Centennial Committee.

OFFICE OF CENTENNIAL CATALOGUE CO., PHILADELPHIA, PA., DECEMBER 1, 1875.

Messrs. S. M. Pettengill & Co., Advertising Agents of Philadelphia, New York and Boston:

GENTLEMEN: This is to certify that we have this day appointed you our exclusive agents for the United States and Canadas for the Advertising Department of the Official Catalogue of the Centennial Exhibition of 1876. Yours, respectfully,

JOHN R. MORTON, Pres'dent.

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FINANCE AND TRADE.

THURSDAY EVENING, December 9, 1875.

The situation in financial circles to-day was in all important respects the same as that previously reported. The tendency seems to be in the direction of ease, and the loan market is well supplied with funds. Exchange was also easier to day, ruling at par generally in transactions between the banks. The meeting to take place to-morrow at the Chamber of Commerce in reference to the provisions of the bankrupt law, was the topic of some discussion and the hope was freely expressed that some means might be found by which the premium to dishonest bankruptcy now held by those provisions might be removed. Another topic of interest to all business men was the impending lock-out, which, it was hoped, in the interest of all classes, might be averted by an amicable compromise.

—The reports from New York indicate some firmness in the money market. Gold continues to show a very slow downward movement, and foreign exchange is quite firm, having advanced somewhat in the past two days. The latest quotations are at 484½@485 for sixty days sterling and 487@487½ for sight. In the stock market there is little new. The speculation in those stocks in which Mr. Gould is interested is seriously affected now by the plea which his counsel interposed for him in the suit against the old firm of Smith, Gould & Martin, arising out of transactions during the gold panic of 1869. The plea that the alleged transaction partook of the nature of gaming—being bets upon the future price of gold—and therefore came under the statute, has attracted general attention, and the desire is expressed that there shall be a judicial decision upon it before the party making it can claim an honorable standing among dealers. This matter involves the validity of contracts. If Mr. Gould, or any other party, can claim that transactions heretofore recognized on the Gold and Stock Exchanges as morally binding are technically illegal, the only recourse for dealers is to decline to have transactions with such persons. Yesterday the effect of this repudiation was shown in the money market, where bids were made for loanable funds on call at ½@2 per cent. above the currrent rate, the collateral offered being "Gould" stocks.

—A Youngstown, Ohio, correspondent sends the following inquiry:

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

A check was recently drawn upon a banking firm here, dated November 8, and made payable in twenty days.

The cashier held that the check was due November 28, and the drawer that it was not due until November 28. Will you please give us your opinion and oblige?

H. H. & Co.

The question is simply whether a check, drawn as stated, is entitled to days of grace or not. Judge Sharswood in his treatise takes the ground most plainly that it is not entitled to them, and we believe the same opinion is generally held by legal authorities on the subject of commercial paper. We do not know that the subject has been definitely legislated or adjudicated upon in Ohio, and are therefore not able to give an exact opinion on this case, further than the general legal view that checks are under no circumstances entitled to days of grace.

In Pennsylvania, notwithstanding the opinion of Judge Sharswood referred to, the subject was regarded as an open one, until the present year, when the act of March 30, 1875, settled it by definitely excepting checks from the privileges of days of grace, "whether payable upon presentation, or upon some day or time subsequent to the date of issue."

—The London *Economist* of November 20, commenting on the reduction of the Bank of England rate to three per cent., observes:

The change on the part of the bank appears to have been occasioned in part by the further fall of the value of money in Germany (the open bank rate in Berlin having been 1% and being still 1¾), and under the influence of the firmness of the exchange on Germany, and the further rise of the exchange on New York. Gold, however, continues to be taken for account of the German Government, and a fall in the Paris exchange, or a decision to cease the purchases of stock for Paris, though it may be only temporary, excites some attention.

The sum of £250,000 was withdrawn from the bank to-day for Germany, to complete, it is understood, a shipment of half a million, though as it is not expected that much more will go until the next arrival from Australia, the bulk of that arrival will probably be taken for Germany, so that the market seems likely to remain bare of bullion.

—During the past week the exports of specie from New York amounted to $351,676. Annexed is a full statement of the exports since July 1, as compared with the same time in 1874:

July	$ 8,754,151	December 4..	$ 351,676
August	3,354,157		
September	1,245,862	Total	$18,330,374
October	1,767,605	Total for same time in 1874..	21,991,050
November	1,660,447		
November 13..	358,418		
November 20..	397,500		
November 27..	700,364	Dec. in 1875..	$ 3,660,676

—In local stocks and securities there was nothing reported. But little business was doing, and what was done was of a private character. The following table gives capital stock, surplus, dividends and approximate stock quotations of the national banks of this city and Allegheny:

Nat'l Banks	Capital	Net Profits	Per Cent	Asked	Dividend, per ct., when Declared, For what time.
First	$ 750	161	100	150	2½, Oct., '75, qr.
Second	300	72	100	115	4, Nov., '75, 6m.
Third	300	72	100	110	4, Nov., '75, 6m.
Fourth	300	108	100	107½	2½, Nov., '75, 6m.
Fifth	300	126	100	122½	2½, Nov., '75, 6m.
Citizens'	300	126	100	97	2½, May., '75, 6m.
Commercial	300	219	50	87	4, Nov., '75, 6m.
City	300	219	50	87	4, Nov., '75, 6m.
Diamond	200	21	100	108	4, Nov., '75, 6m.
Duquesne	150	49	100	95	4, Nov., '75, 6m.
Exchange	1,700	481	50	95½	4, Nov., '75, 6m.
Farmers' & Dr.	300	100	100	95	3½, Oct., '75, qr.
German	200	106	100	142	3, Nov., '75, 6m.
Iron City	500	200	50	90	4, Nov., '75, 6m.
Mechanics'	300	279	50	86½	2, Nov., '75, 6m.
M. & M	300	81	50	90	3, Nov., '75, 6m.
Marine	200	9	50	92	Nov., '75, 6m.
Metropolitan	200	21	50	90	3, Nov., '75, 6m.
People's	250	45	100	112	3, July, '75, 6m.
Smithfield	140	8	100	81	3, July, '75, 6m.
Tradesm'n's	400	100	100	117½	3, July, '75, 6m.
Nat. B'k of Commerce	500	357	100	122½	3, July, '75, 6m.
Union	250	220	100	155	6, July, '75, 6m.
1st, Birm'm	250	102	100	145	3, July, '75, 6m.
1st, Alle'y	250	102	100	145	3, July, '75, 6m.
2d, Alle'y	250	91	100	130	3, July, '75, 6m.
3d, Alle'y	200	18	50	50	3½, July, '75, 6m.
German, A	200	12	100	98	3, July, '75, 6m.

NOTE—In the above table the first column represents the number of thousands of dollars of capital of each bank, the last three ciphers of the amount being omitted for the purpose of economizing space. In like manner, the column of net profits (or the total of surplus and undivided profits) at the last statement, represents the number of thousands of dollars, the last three figures being omitted. The figures in the third, fourth and fifth columns show the number of dollars per share, for par value and bidding and asking prices. An asterisk (*) indicates the price at which the last reported sale of the stock so indicated, was made. In the dividend column, the first figures indicates the percentage of the last dividend, the next the month and year when it was made, and the next the length of time covered thereby. The quotations given for the stocks are intended as approximately indicating the market value. In the case of some of the leading banks, there is none of the stock for sale, in which cases quotations are rather nominal.

—The following table shows the prices of gold, Government bonds, railway stocks, etc., at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange during the day, furnished by the Fifth National Bank, No. 16 Sixth street:

	10:30	12:30	2:30
December 9, 1875.	A. M.	M.	P. M.
Gold	114⅝	114⅝	114⅝
U. S. 6's, 1881, coup	120	120	120
5-20's, 1865	113	113	113
5-20's, 1865, new	115	115	115
5-20's, 1867, reg. or cpd.	118½	118½	118½
5-20's, 1867	122	122	122
5-20's, 1868	122	122	122
10-40's	117½	117½	117½
10-40's, coup. ons	117½	117½	117½
Currency 6's	122	122	122
New 5 per cents	117	117	117
Western Union Tel			90½
Pacific Mail			40½
Erie			16⅜
Michigan Central			91⅜
Michigan Southern			61⅜
Chicago & N'western			36⅜
St. Paul, common			36⅜
do preferred			66⅜
Ohio & Mississippi			17⅝

[By Associated Press.]

Gold Closed at 114¾.

MONEY.

NEW YORK, December 9.—Money easy at 4@5 per cent. Prime mercantile paper 5½@7 per cent. Customs receipts $341,000. The Assistant Treasurer disbursed $100,000. Clearings $38,000,000. Sterling quiet at 484½@487½.

GOLD.

Gold opened at 114¾ and closed at 114¾, all sales of the day having been at these figures. Rates for borrowing were flat and 1-64 per diem, but finally 8 per cent. was paid to have balances carried.

STOCKS AND BONDS.

Government bonds steady. Railroad bonds strong and higher for Pacifics. Toledo and Wabash seconds declined to 49¾. State securities quiet. The stock market opened firm and prices advanced in the general list, but after first call a reaction took place, followed later by a generally undecided, irregular, buying movement. Lake Shore advanced to 83⅝, declined to 82¾, rallied to 82⅞ and was active. North Western shares were strong, common ranging from 35¼ to 38¾ and preferred from 56 to 56¾. Union Pacific sold from 76¾ and Western Union to 75¾. At the close prices were lower on sales to realize. Lake Shore declined 1⅝@83⅜. See pfd to 84¼; preferred to 66¾. Northwestern to 38¼, preferred to 55¾. Union Pacific to 77, Pacific Mail to 40¾, Ohio and Mississippi to 17¾, Atlantic and Pacific Telegraph to 18¾, and Western Union to 76¾. United States Express sold at 58 and 57 and then receded to 56. An official announcement was made from Boston that the regular 2 per cent. quarterly dividend on Union Pacific has been declared, payable January 1st. The *Express* says the officers of the Chicago and Northwestern Railway Company have declared officers as organized conspiracy to injure the credit of that company and depress its securities. They have taken the necessary steps to bring the guilty parties engaged in this matter. Transactions at the stock Exchange, 140,000 shares, of which 12,600 were Pacific Mail, 16,000 Wabash, 9,000 Northwestern common, 12,500 preferred, 5,000 St. Paul common, 5,000 preferred, 16,000 Erie and 15,000 Lake Shore.

The following were the closing quotations:

STOCKS.		BONDS.	
W. U. Telegraph	76¾	St. Paul	36¾
Pacific Mail	40¾	Do preferred	66¾
New York Central	106¾	Toledo & Wabash	49¾
Adams Express	102½	Do preferred	
Wells Fargo Ex	82½	Fort Wayne	94
United States Ex	57	Terre Haute	
American Ex	93	Do preferred	20
Erie	16¾	Chicago & Alton	97
Do preferred	29	Do preferred	105

NOTE—The market is very dull and depressed.

Petroleum.

December 10.—There was a quiet and eventless market without material alteration in quotations.

CRUDE—The market was quiet but steadily. We quote Conover Union certificates at $1 39¾@$1 57½. United $1 35@1 38¾; Pennsylvania, Grant and Relief do $1 32½@$1 33½; immediate shipments are dull and nominal, so the aggregate of 67,000 barrels are reported.

REFINED—The market for refined was also dull but unchanged. The minute standard was on the cars at 10@10¼c for spot and December. Sellers' New York delivery rules at 12⅜@12¾c for prompt and the month. Philadelphia is quoted at 12¼@12¾c for early December. Baltimore nominally 12½c for prompt and this month's delivery.

OIL RANGES—Continue depressed at $1 20 for city; $1 10 for country.

(By Western Union Telegraph.)

TITUSVILLE, December 9.—The *Herald* says: This was another very uninteresting day in the crude petroleum markets of the region. Until opening at $1 39¾, advanced to 37¾, but closed at $1 35 bid. Union was in better demand, with very little offering, and was bid up to $1 38¾, but finally fell off about the same as United at the close. The closing quotations at 9 P. M. were:

	Bid.	Asked.
United at wells	$1 35	$1 38¾
Union at wells	1 38	1 39¾
Pennsylvania at wells	1 35	1 39¾
U. S. Certificates	1 35¾	1 40
Conduit at wells	1 35	1 37½
Oil City	1 62½	1 60
Lower creek	1 62½	1 65
Upper creek	1 62½	1 65

The total sales were 67,000 barrels.

OIL CITY, December 9.—*The Derrick* says: Shipment—The price generally bid was $1 58¾ and $1 60 was asked. United—During the morning there were sales up to $1 39¾, but during the afternoon $1 35 was the best bid for new certificates, and $1 37½ was asked for old. The total sales were 58,500 barrels. Sales of certificates; 7,350 barrels of certificates pipeage paid.

NEW YORK, December 9, closing.—The export movement is still of a restricted character and the markets abroad are not in a satisfactory shape. Offering are not large at the current figures. Crude in bulk 7c for prompt; 7c for December, in shipping order, 10½c on the spot and 10¾c for December; refined 12¾c for spot and December; cases 10¾@12c; naptha 9¾c; prompt. At Philadelphia refined is quoted at 12¾@12¾c at Philadelphia 12¾@12¾c.

PHILADELPHIA, December 9.—Market quiet; standard white, 110 test, 12¾c; crude 6¾@7c; cases 10¾c.

TITUSVILLE, December 9.—Market firm at $1 62½@1 65.

OIL CITY, December 9.—Market quiet and firm at $1 59½@1 60¾.

ROUSSEVILLE, December 9.—Market firmer and higher; quoted at $1 60.

TIDIOUTE, December 9.—Market firm at $1 60 bid; $1 62½ asked.

PARKER'S STORE, December 9.—Market firm; United $1 35; shipment $1 60@1 62½.

(By Associated Press.)

NEW YORK, December 9.—Petroleum dull: refined 12¼@12⅝c; crude 7c.

PHILADELPHIA, December 9.—Petroleum nominal; refined 12¾c; crude in barrels 10¾c.

LONDON, December 9.—Refined petroleum 11¾ @12d.

CLEVELAND, December 9.—Petroleum in firm demand: 110 degrees test 9¾c; prime white, 150 degrees test, 10½c in car lots, cash.

CRUDE OIL RECEIVED BY A. V. R. R.

December 8, 1875.

Shipper.	Consignee.	Bbls.
J J Fisher	J J Fisher	100
G M Robinson	Vesta Oil Works	80
B S Duncan	Star Oil Works	558
Total		738

Drugs and Chemicals.

DRUGS—There has been a fair jobbing business in drugs since our last report. The following revised list of quotations is furnished by Hunter & Ewing, wholesale druggists, Liberty street:

Acid.			
Acetic	12	@	18
Citric	1 65	@	1 12
Muriatic	3½	@	4
Sulphuric	2½	@	4½
Tartaric	80	@	85
Alcohol, gal	2 90	@	2 90
Alum.			
Cape	16	@	20
Soot	5	@	7½
Alt Carb	20	@	25
Aqua	8	@	12
Ammonia	30	@	40
Ashes.			
Pearls	4	@	5
Bal Copa	95	@	1 00
Bayrum, gal	2 75	@	3 00
Balm	75	@	88
Candles	18	@	20
Cinchona	20	@	30
" pale	20	@	30
" comp	20	@	30
Black Lead.			
American	6	@	6
East Ind	11	@	12
Caramel	75	@	80
Blue mass	70	@	73
Blue vitr	11	@	12
Borax refd	15	@	18
Brim rolls	4	@	5
" Florsul	5	@	6
Caromel	1	@	37
Castile	13	@	15
Camp ref	58	@	63
Camphor	1 30	@	1 40
Cham Ger	50	@	60
" Roman	75	@	80
Chlorof'm	1 05	@	1 20
Clove	1	@	1 10
Cochineal	68	@	73
Cam ph cases	4 00	@	7 75
Copperas	2	@	3
Cr'm Tar	45	@	48
Cubebs	1	@	1 10
Cudbear	25	@	35
Emery Flour	10	@	12
Et Nit spts	47	@	49
" Sulph	75	@	78
Ext Logwd	13½	@	14
" Licorice	30	@	35
" Italian	25	@	30
" Sicily	25	@	25
Fenticu	3	@	3
Galls Aleppo	24	@	25
Gum			
Arabic sts	20	@	30
" White Flake	35	@	40
Myrrh T'k	55	@	62
Shellac	35	@	40
Trag s'rts	35	@	50
" Flake	80	@	1 00
Hoffm Anod	1 50	@	1 60
Indigo Madi	1 00	@	1 20
Span	1 10	@	1 20
Iodine resb	4 00	@	4 25
Iodof'm	4	@	4 25
Logwood, b	2½	@	3½
Mace	1 15	@	1 38
Madder	14	@	17
Magcal	80	@	1 00
" Carb	30	@	35
Manna S'P	65	@	70
Morph sul	4	@	4 25
Nut No 1	1 35	@	1 44
Oil.			
Anise	4 00	@	4 20
Bergamot	3 00	@	3 50
Castor	18	@	19
Cinnam	2 00	@	2 20
Cloves	1 75	@	1 90
Cod liv	2 00	@	2 75
Lemon	3 50	@	4 25
Linseed, raw	60	@	65
Linseed, b'l'd	63	@	68
N'eats F	1 90	@	1 35
Olive	1 75	@	2 00
" qu'rts	6 25	@	10 00
" pints	3 25	@	5 50
Origan	1 50	@	2 00
Pepper'l	5 50	@	5 50
Rosemary	1 00	@	1 50
Sassafras	85	@	90
Sperm	2 50	@	2 75
Tanners	58	@	64
White	60	@	62
Wint'g'n	4 00	@	4 25
Wint'g'n T'n	2 75	@	3 00
P'l'ris, bbl	3 75	@	4 00
Paints.			
Bichrom	24	@	26
Chlorate	30	@	37
Iodide	3 00	@	3 25
Putty	3½	@	4½
Quin sul oz	2 35	@	2 40
Rosin	4 00	@	4 50
Root.			
Gentian	8	@	12
Ginger, J	17	@	20
Jalap	30	@	40
Ipec pow	1	@	1 88
Galangal	75	@	80
Liquorice	12	@	14
Rhub E	1 00	@	1 50
Sars Hon	1	@	1 58
Sarsaparilla	25	@	30
Valer Eng	32	@	40
" German	20	@	25
Sal Ammon	14	@	18
Saltpetre	7	@	8
Soda, b	2½	@	3½
Seed.			
Canary	17	@	19
Hemp	7½	@	8½
Cardam, p	2	@	2 50
Mustard	8	@	19
Sanna, A L'S	15	@	22
" E In, b	17	@	22
Soda.			
Bi Carb	5	@	6
Soap Cast, b	11	@	14
" Lard, b	11	@	14
Sugar L'd'n	24	@	28
Curry powd	45	@	53
Vanilla.			
Copaia	1 25	@	2 00
Japan	80	@	1 30
Jamaica	1 60	@	1 80
Ven Red	2½	@	4
Wax.			
Bees	24	@	25
Sperm	45	@	50
Shellac	35	@	40
Vegetable	18	@	20
Zinc.			
Sulphate	4	@	5
Nut Meg	1	@	1 10
Opium	6 00	@	6 25
Oil Peppermint	3 00	@	3 50
Pot Bich	25	@	30
Prus Acid	50	@	60
Quinine, P & W	48	@	50
Rochelle Salts	35	@	40
Saltpetre	10	@	12
Seidlitz Mix	40	@	45
Soda, Bi Carb	5	@	6
Soda Ash	3½	@	4
Soda, Sal	1½	@	2
Strychnine	1 00	@	1 25
Sulphur, Subl	3	@	3½
" Roll	2½	@	3
Tartar, Cream	30	@	35
Vitriol, Blue	8	@	9
" Green	6	@	7
" White	8	@	9
Zinc, Sulph	4	@	5

Nut Meg—Continued light supply and steady at 90c@$1 00 for No. 1 and 65@75c for No. 2.

Opium—Is in fair supply and steady at $6 00@$6 25 for Turkey.

Oil Peppermint—Is in fair supply and steady at $3 00@$3 50.

Pot Bich—Is in fair supply and steady at 25@30c.

Prus Acid—Is in fair supply and steady at 50@60c.

Quinine, P & W—Is in fair supply and steady at 48@50c.

Rochelle Salts—Is in fair supply and steady at 35@40c.

Saltpetre—Is in fair supply and steady at 10@12c.

Seidlitz Mix—Is in fair supply and steady at 40@45c.

Soda, Bi Carb—Is in fair supply and steady at 5@6c.

Soda Ash—Is in fair supply and steady at 3½@4c.

Soda, Sal—Is in fair supply and steady at 1½@2c.

Strychnine—Is in fair supply and steady at $1 00@$1 25.

Sulphur, Subl—Is in fair supply and steady at 3@3½c.

" Roll—Is in fair supply and steady at 2½@3c.

Tartar, Cream—Is in fair supply and steady at 30@35c.

Vitriol, Blue—Is in fair supply and steady at 8@9c.

" Green—Is in fair supply and steady at 6@7c.

" White—Is in fair supply and steady at 8@9c.

Zinc, Sulph—Is in fair supply and steady at 4@5c.

The market is very dull and depressed.

Soda ashes, refined, $4 00@4 25 ₱ cwt. for high test; common $3 25@3 50 ₱ cwt. for 48 per cent. test; 60 per cent. $4 50@5 00; pearl ash $8 @8 50; nitrate of soda $3 50@3 75; manganese $6 50; flour spar $2 50.

Glass and Glassware.

WINDOW GLASS—The following is the manufacturers' card list, on which a discount is made of 70@75 per cent. on jobbing lots; sales of round lots are reported at an additional 5@10 per cent. discount.

PER BOX OF FIFTY FEET.—SINGLE STRENGTH.

24 Quality.	1st Quality.	Dbl. 1st
6 by 8 to 7 by 9	$ 2	$10 00
7 by 10 to 8 by 10	$ 2 00	7 75
10 by 11 to 10 by 12	2 75	11 00
8 by 14 to 10 by 15	3 00	11 75
11 by 12 to 12 by 15	3 00	14 00
12 by 18 to 16 by 24	4 00	18 00
18 by 22	5 00	24 00
15 by 26 to 20 by 26	5 00	30 00
18 by 24 to 24 by 30	6 00	36 00
20 by 26 to 24 by 36	7 00	40 00
24 by 30 to 24 by 36	8 00	50 00
25 by 36 to 26 by 50	10 00	60 00
30 by 36 to 30 by 54		70 00
30 by 56 to 34 by 56		80 00
34 by 58 to 34 by 60		90 00
36 by 60 to 40 by 60		100 00

All sizes over 32 inches in length, and not working to mitred inches, will be charged in 64 unlited inches bracket. An additional 10 per cent will be charged for all glass more than 40 inches wide. Orders by telegraph are subject to approval of manufacturers when received.

GLASSWARE—Discounts on glass ware are given as follows: On druggists' green glass ware, 70 per cent.; on druggists' flint prescription, 50 per cent. flint lamp chimneys, 25 to 50 and 5 per cent.; flint lamp chimneys, 25 to 30 per cent.

FRUIT JARS—The following are manufacturers' wholesale prices. Groove ring, tin cap and wire complete:

Quarts as to quantity, ₱ gross	$ 8 50@12 00
Half gallon, as to quantity, ₱ gross	12 50@16 00

With porcelain liner cap:

	Qts.	½ gall.
2 to 5 gross, ₱ gross	$13 00	$16 00
5 to 15 gross, ₱ gross	18 50	22 50
10 to 50 gross, ₱ gross	17 50	21 50
55 to 250 gross, ₱ gross	16 50	20 50

General Merchandise.

ALES—The demand is sluggish and the market very dull at easy prices as follows: A ₱ barrel; XX $10 00 ₱ barrel; domestic ale, in bottles, ₱ 50@1 75 per dozen; India ale $11 00 ₱ barrel; Bass' English ale, in builders' trade, ₱ dozen pints, $5 00; barrels, 32 gallons, $26 00; hhds. 64 gallons, $46 00; in cases, 4 dozen bottles, $20 75; William Younger's India pale ale, in cases of 8 dozen bottles, ₱ 75@3 00 ₱ dozen; Robert Younger's sparkling ale ₱ 75@3 00 ₱ dozen; Guinness' stouts, bottled by A. Burke, ₱ 75@3 00 ₱ dozen; Cantrell & Cochrane's ginger ale ₱ 75 ₱ dozen; Caswell, Hazard & Co.'s ginger ale ₱ 75 ₱ dozen.

ALCOHOL AND WHISKIES—The market is lower. We quote alcohol at ₱ 2 20@2 25 ₱ gal. lon. Highwines are easy at $1 16@1 17 ₱ gallon.

BAGS AND BAGGING—There is a moderate demand at steady prices. We quote: Extra gunny bags 22c; do second-hand 22c; Union bags 24c; American A's 30c; Philadelphia A's 23c; Galena grain bags 30c; English do 12c; Penn Mill 3 bushel 42c; do 2½ bushel 39c; do 2 bushel 30c; Allegheny 2 bushel do 23c; Hanover Powder 2 bushel do 25c; Burlaps 2 yards—1 lb ₱ dozen; 1½ lb cuts $1 50 ₱ dozen; 2 lb cuts $1 90; 1 lb cuts $3 00; 1½ cuts $4 50; 2 lb cuts $6 00; boxes 40c ₱ lb. Market steady and demand good.

BROOMS AND BROOM CORN—Broom corn is firm for the best grades, with light receipts. We quote green hurl 11¼@12c; green medium 10@11c; green stock hurl 10½@11c; green inside and crooked 9@10c; green self-working 11½@12c; pale and red brush range from 2½ @ ₱ lb less than above. There is a fair trade in brooms at former prices. We quote maker's prices as follows: No. 2, common, $2 25; No. 3, hurl, $2 50; No. 4, hurl, $2 75; No. 5, hurl, $3 00; No. 6, hurl, $3 50; No. 3, carpet, $3 75; No. 4, carpet, $4 00; fancy parlor, $4 50@5 00; whisks, brooms $3 50@4 50; tops, plain, $1 25@1 75; whips, fancy, $1 50@2 00; toy brooms, $1 50@2 00.

CEMENT—The advanced freight rates to the East have caused some firmness in Eastern cements, and the trade in brands of white or water lime is fair at $1 75@2 00; well known brands of family flour $7 00@7 25; Wisconsin is quoted at $6 50@6 75; Minnesota $6 75@7 00; fancy St. Louis, $8 50@9 00; choice patents $8 50@9 00; new process cement $3 00@3 50; Hydraulic cement $3 00@3 25; calcined plaster $2 50@3 00; Portland cement $5 50@7 00; White lime, bbls, $1 50@1 75; Lancaster, $1 50@1 75; Gibsonburg $1 65@1 75; Fremont $1 65@1 75; Eastern white lime $1 10@1 50; per bbl. Calcined plaster $4 00@4 25 ₱ ton; ₱ bbl; Eastern brands $3 50@3 75 ₱ bbl; Michigan $3 50@3 75; Western brands $3 00@3 25.

COFFEE—Trade moves steadily with a moderate supply of orders at unchanged prices. We quote as follows:

Rio, cargoes	20 @ 21
Rio, ordinary to prime	18 @ 20
Rio, common	16 @ 17
Laguayra	20 @ 21
Mocha	28 @ 30
Java, mats and bags	25 @ 28
Java, Government	30 @ 32
Java, Singapore	28 @ 30
Java, Ceylon	28 @ 30
Java, Batavia	28 @ 30
Java, Mocha	30 @ 32
Java, Private Estate	32 @ 34
Java, Interior	25 @ 28
Java, Ordinary	22 @ 24
Java, Good	26 @ 28
Java, Prime	28 @ 30
Java, Old Government	32 @ 34
Java, Mocha	30 @ 32
Java, Arabian	28 @ 30

CITY MATTERS.

For eighty-five cents per month the DAILY COMMERCIAL will be mailed to travelers or to subscribers who are temporarily absent from Pittsburgh. The address of the paper will be changed as often as is desired.

Local Observation.

OFFICE OF THE OBSERVER, U. S. SIG. SERV. Room 23, First National Bank; PITTSBURGH, PA., December 9, 1875.

Time.	Bar.	Th'r.	Hum	WIND. Dir.	Force.	Weath.
7 A. M..	29.720	37	80	N.W.	Fresh.	Cloudy
2 P. M..	29.785	38	71	N.W.	Fresh.	Cloudy
9 P. M..	29.942	32	60	N.W.	Fresh.	Cloudy

Mean barometer...29.847 | Highest thermom....39
Mean thermom..... 35 | Lowest thermom....32
Rainfall..... .01

The Question of Boiling Iron.

This afternoon the conference committees of the iron manufacturers and boilers will resume their discussion, and it is to be hoped that some satisfactory conclusion by which the mills will continue in operation and employment be given, may be arrived at.

We respectfully suggest to both sides that it would be wise to allow the reporters of the daily press to be present that they may give to the public fair reports of both sides of the question as they may be stated.

Interesting Surgical Operation.

An old lady named Ballou, residing at Wampum, Pa., who had been ailing somewhat for years, suddenly on Tuesday night last. As her physicians could never determine what the matter was, a *post mortem* was held the following day, by Dr. Mehard, assisted by Dr. Barker, of New Castle. It was found that her death resulted from enlargement of the spleen—that organ which should not exceed seven ounces in weight, in its normal condition, had increased to the extraordinary weight of a little more than *fourteen pounds*.

The Citizens' Meeting To-day.

It should not be forgotten, by business and professional men, indeed, citizens generally, that a public meeting is to be held at the rooms of the Chamber of Commerce at two o'clock this afternoon, to discuss the Bankrupt law. The question of its repeal is an interesting and debatable one, and great differences of opinion exist as to the modifications or amendments necessary. It is claimed by those who favor the law that it is not sufficiently understood, or there would be none opposing it. In view of this, it is well to have a discussion on the subject, and have the people thus better informed upon it.

Alleged Larceny of Jewelry.

August Fecke is charged, before Alderman McMasters, by Mr. Henry Terheyden, of Smithfield street, with the larceny of some $2,000 worth of jewelry. It is alleged that the prosecutor bought the property on the South Side at Sheriff's sale, and that before he was able to remove it, it was stolen. Subsequently he found some of it in the window of defendant's shop on the South Side, whereupon the information was made. A search warrant was issued, most of the property recovered, and the defendant was arrested and gave bail for court. The only evidence against the defendant seems to be the fact that the property was found in his possession.

"Special Agents" of the Postoffice.

The Philadelphia *Day* copies a paragraph from this paper, relative to the arrest of Thomas Gatewood, at the instance of a "special agent" of the Postoffice Department, and makes it a text for vigorous and indignant protest against the practices of the "special agents." It says; "A thorough investigation of the character and course of some—not a few—of these wretches would show them to be unfit to live outside of prison walls, and it is fair to assume that the present Postmaster General is not aware that a number of inapt, incompetent and dishonest villains are officially representing, or misrepresenting, him in various parts of the country. Some of them infest this city, now and then, and some of them will live to read truthful sketches of themselves and their doings in print, unless they favor the public by dying at an early day. They are a disgrace to the postal service and to the country, and are often a curse to innocent men."

The Distribution of Alms.

Reference was made, a few days ago, to a movement set on foot in this city to secure concentrated effort in the distribution of out-door relief, so that the wants of the deserving poor might be supplied and the impositions of the "professional" beggars prevented. This action was suggested by a similar effort now being made in the city of New York. The *Times* says: "The State Board of Charity, through Mr. Roosevelt, has made a proposition to the City Commissioners of Charity that the distribution of their considerable fund for outdoor relief should be made this year under check of responsible citizens who might volunteer for this work. The consultation has apparently consented to this, and the committees in the different wards remain to be selected. For the first time, if this plan be wisely carried out, the city's outdoor relief will be distributed under honest and responsible direction." It is further suggested that, if there is not sufficient time to form committees in every ward, the experiment should be tried in one or two of the more populous districts during the present winter, and if it succeeded the system could be extended another year to other wards, and finally to the whole city. The evils of indiscriminate giving are of the most serious character, and ought to be carefully avoided. It is a question whether the utter want of discrimination between worthy and unworthy objects of charity, has not led to a general demoralization from which hangs upon the immense army of "tramps," whose volunteers are found in such numbers, in every county in the Northern States, in localities where they have become so alarming as to call for prompt legislation. It is a duty to aid the unfortunate and to assist the needy; but it is little less than a crime to encourage in idleness those who are able to work. It is therefore, of the highest importance that the character and circumstances of every applicant should be fully known before relief is afforded; and this can only be done by districting the city and appointing proper persons to dispense the required aid. Able-bodied men and women should be compelled to work; and if they cannot find employment on their own account, they should be furnished with labor whereby they could at least earn their living. It is claimed that if they cannot obtain food and shelter for the asking they will soon learn to shift for themselves, but not till then. The whole system is badly in need of remodeling, and the sooner our charitable societies set about this work the better.

The Spectroscope and Its Applications.

Notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather a very fair audience, composed of some of our best citizens, assembled in the High School Hall last evening to hear Professor A. E. Frost's lecture on the Spectroscope. It is gratifying to know that our citizens are beginning to manifest considerable of interest in the dissemination of the beautiful truths of natural science, and that they fully appreciate the efforts of the High School in unfolding these truths by means of the improved instruments and apparatus used by our modern investigators and discoverers by experiment.

A pen-picture, however well sketched, and touched up with the flower of language, is always inadequate to the task, and gives but a faint idea of a beautiful landscape, or a master-piece from the works of art. So with an illustrated scientific lecture, but a faint idea can be conveyed even by a verbatim report—they must be *seen* and heard to be fully appreciated.

We give below a very crude outline, which will indicate the order of presenting the subject:

After brief introductory remarks, the lecturer indicated the plan he proposed to pursue. This was, not to go over the beaten track, considering the subject in strict chronological order, but to make the audience, with him, investigators, rather dependent, it is true, upon work of the real discoverer for suggestions of the experiments.

He then showed the path of a ray of light under ordinary circumstances, and how, in passing from one medium into another differing from it in density, it became a refracted ray.

The action of the prism was then shown upon monochromatic lights—that these lights after passing through it, occupied different positions upon the screen; the red being the least bent. Hence the amount of bending is not the same for all colors.

The nature and descriptive of colors was then spoken of. White light is not composed of rays of one kind, but of many. The combination of these produces white light. The difference between white light and light of but one color was shown by reproducing a large flame colored by sodium, the effect of which was to destroy all colors except yellow. The spectrum of this light was then shown and described, illustrating its luminous and heating properties.

Having thus developed the power of the prism to pick out colors, although existing in combination, and to send them each to its own proper place, we have discovered the principle of the spectroscope; for, however complicated the instrument may appear, the complications are for the simple purpose of making this property more easily available.

The history of the instrument was then briefly alluded to—Wallaston's discovery of dark lines in the solar spectrum—Thannhofer's mapping of many of them; of Bunsen and Kerchoff's labors, and discovery of their real significances, as well as the method of analysis to which they gave the name of spectrum analysis. The general results of their labors were stated.

By means of the electric lamp, hues produced by some of the metals were shown, and finally the instrument itself was explained.

The next lecture of the course will be given on the evening of December 16th, and will be a continuation of the same subject.

PRESBYTERIAN MEMORIAL CONVENTION.

The Closing Day—The Educational History by Dr. Brownson—The Missionary History by Dr. Swift—Closing Addresses By Dr. Wilson, Dr. Dickson and Others.

The convention reassembled yesterday morning, at half-past nine, and spent half an hour in devotional exercises. The venerable President Dr. Beatty, occupied the chair.

The Rev. Dr. Brownson, of Washington, Pa., was then introduced, and proceeded to read his essay on "The Educational History." After briefly stating the distinctive character of Presbyterianism, and agreeing with the historian Bancroft that Calvin was the real inventor and father of public or common school education, he proceeded to trace the development of education within the territory represented in the convention. The first schools or academies for the training of young men for the ministry, were established under the direction of McMillan, Dodd and Smith. As to which of these men was entitled to the honor of having first taught the classics, the question, after a great deal of controversy, was still an open one. The speaker inclined to the belief that Dr. McMillan was the first; but however that might be, his distinguished co-laborers were equally entitled to credit, and there should be no invidious distinctions made between them in this matter. Thaddeus Dodd established his school in 1782. Joseph Smith's school, at Buffalo, was opened in 1785. The exact date at which Dr. McMillan begun to teach, is not known, but the indications were that it was possibly as early as 1780. Washington Academy was organized in 1784, and went into operation in 1787, under Thaddeus Dodd. The Canonsburg Academy followed in 1791. The speaker then gave a lengthy and concise history of the origin and growth of the two great rival institutions, Washington and Jefferson colleges. The difficulties and triumphs, the bitter controversies among the people, the criminations and recriminations which filled the press, as a part of this history, were tersely sketched. The union of the two institutions was happily described, and brief biographical sketches of the presidents were given, as also sketches of some of the most distinguished alumni. The paper was a very able and exhaustive treatise on the subject.

The convention then spent a brief period in devotional exercises, and took a recess for dinner.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Convention met at the usual hour, and devotional exercises were conducted by Dr. Howard.

Rev. E. E. Swift, D. D., was then introduced, and read an interesting paper on the "Missionary History." As early as 1802, the Synod of Pittsburgh took decisive action on the subject of missions, resolving, in substance, that each member should be a missionary to carry the Gospel to those who were destitute. It was the desire to civilize and Christianize the Indians, which attracted some of the best men to the work. This was, indeed, the great religious work of one hundred years ago. Various missionary operations were conducted from the latter date, and even before that day missionaries were at work. Rev. J. Badger was one of the earliest, having been sent out by the Connecticut Society, to the Western Reserve, in 1800. In 1936 he resigned, and connected with the Pittsburgh Society. In 1804, Scott and Bruce were reported at Sandusky town. In 1802, Rev. James McFarran was sent out for a period, followed by Robert Patterson, Elisha McCurdy and others in 1803. In 1822 the Synod appointed the Rev. S. Tate as missionary to the Indians on the Maumee river. It was early a custom to preach an annual sermon on the subject of missions. In 1803 this duty was first discharged, and continued regularly for many years. Rose, Marquis, Hughes, McCurdy, McFarran and others following in turn. In 1805 the *Western Missionary Magazine*, devoted to the cause of missions, was started, with no less than twelve editors, but it did not prove a very efficient aid. The early missionary operations were conducted by a Board of Trustees, but in 1810 the American Board was formed, and in 1816 the Board of Trustees was superseded by the Board of Missions, but it met with much opposition, and in order to secure unity of action the General Assembly, in 1825, reorganized the Board nearly as it is now constituted. The distinguished and gifted E. P. Swift was its first Corresponding Secretary, and was justly called "the father of the Board of Foreign Missions." In 1829 the Synod transferred the supervision of the whole work to the Board of Missions, and it soon after entered upon the great work of sending the gospel to heathen lands. Other denominations had conducted missions on a similar plan, but it had hardly been attempted by the Presbyterian church. In 1831, the Synod of Pittsburgh met in the First church, and declared it a duty to send the gospel to all who set in darkness. It was resolved that it was expedient to establish a Board of Foreign Missions, and a constitution was adopted. Dr. Swift continued to serve as Secretary until 1825, when he resigned and was succeeded by Walter Lowrie, who held the position for thirty-two years.

The organization of the Board were then detailed at length. The fields which were occupied were India, West Africa, Smyrna, China and the Indian territory of North America. The devoted men and women who went out as pioneers to these several fields, were spoken of in terms of the highest praise. The history was brought down to a recent date, and the whole subject was very ably presented.

After singing and prayer the convention adjourned until evening.

EVENING SESSION.

In the evening there was a fair attendance, and after preliminary religious exercises informal addresses were delivered. The first discourse was that of Rev. S. J. Wilson of the Theological Seminary. He referred to the labors of McMillan and those of his day who preached the truth without hesitation or fears as to whom it would touch. They founded colleges and other literary institutions, in the midst of persecution. And yet Presbyterian laid the foundations of our Government and established our liberties. As they laid the foundation of the structures so, must the present labor to rear and maintain the buildings. See that we do not let the fires and the lamps that they lit in the wilderness die out or if we do, shame upon us. We must keep up the standard. In the light of the past may we read the future. We need revival to stir up zeal, increase our benevolence. This church must keep right true to her doctrine and her charter, and then there is another century before us. In the truth lies the safety and success of the church.

Dr. Howard next introduced the venerable Rev. Beatty, saying that he was sure all would be glad of the opportunity to hear him. Rev. Beatty at once arose and said he had not expected at this time to address the audience. During the afternoon, however, when Rev. Elliott Swift was delivering his most interesting discourse, he, Mr. Beatty had felt that, from modesty too little had been said of and concerning Rev. Elisha P. Swift, the father of the lecturer. To that man, said Mr. Beatty, do we owe much of the success of our foreign missionary work. Mr. Beatty then gave some reminiscences of the earlier acquaintance with Rev. Elisha P. Swift. To him the speaker owed much for his success in after years. The advice and encouragement of Mr. Swift and Rev. Herron had been of great benefit. Mr. Swift was a man whose zeal burned within him in the cause of Christ. The speaker wished that there should be a more complete history of the labors of Rev. Elisha P. Swift in the missionary cause for the coming publication. He admired the great zeal, noble piety and continued successful labors of that good man.

Rev. Mr. Chamberlain a missionary from Brazil next addressed the audience. After reference to the interesting addresses of venerable speakers who had preceded him and the necessity of holding the truth as the foundation of the church, the gentleman said it had mortified him and been painful to him to learn upon his return home that the various missionary boards of the church were behindhand.

He felt, however, that God should be thanked for the shrinkage of values reported. It was necessary for men to learn that it was not mammon but the Lord they did labor for. In the world worship, Mr. Chamberlain reported the condition the missionary work and the progress of the Gospel in Brazil and explained the immense field that lay before the workers.

At the conclusion of Rev. Chamberlain's remarks the audience arose and sang two verses of the coronation hymn.

Rev. Dr. Cyrus Dickson, of the Home Missionary Board of New York, was next introduced, and delivered a very interesting address. He expressed his satisfaction at being able to attend this memorial meeting and hear the papers that had been delivered. He reminded his hearers that the work of the Home Missionary Board really began in this country two hundred years ago. In 1709 there were but five churches in the colonies, but by the appeals of the few workers to the old country their numbers had increased unitil, in 1717, there were twenty licensed laborers in the cause of Christ. With reference to the embarrassment of the Board, Dr. Dickson said that on the 1st of December the Home Mission fund was behind $115,000 and the Sustentation fund was behind $8,000. This could easily be accounted for. The stringency of the times is such, that men who have now what would have made John McMillan rich cannot give, because of the mutifarious and multitudinous wants of the day. The people were urged to give and give liberally in aid of the church and of church work. The Rev. speaker next urged that the endeavor might be earnest to make this memorial meeting prove a revival. Nothing was so important in this connection as closet prayer, private communion with God. Family religion should be encouraged, and then congregational worship will be fervent and powerful for good.

After some remarks from other delegates the meeting adjourned with religious exercises.

Continental Currency.

John Rebman, Esq., has a centennial memento in the shape of a piece of continental currency, calling for "four Spanish milled dollars, or the value thereof, in gold or silver, according to resolution of Congress, passed at Philadelphia, November 29, 1775." The "promise to pay" is signed by Sam. Morris.

ALLEGHENY COUNCILS.

Meeting Last Evening—Financial Matters — Improvements — The Public Printing—The Drove Yard Nuisance.

A regular meeting of the Councils of Allegheny City was held last evening, when the following business was transacted:

SELECT BRANCH.

Mr. Smith presented the reports of the Finance Committee and the Controller, already published. The interest on the current daily balances is given at $247 40. The reports were received and filed.

A resolution offering a reward of $500 for the arrest and conviction of the tax duplicate mutilators was passed.

Mr. John A. Cochran presented to an ordinance for opening of Superior Run avenue. Referred for printing.

Mr. C. called up the ordinance for the repeal of the ordinance opening North alley, which passed finally.

The matter of the Viewers' report on the opening of Monroe street was next called up, and a motion made to quash the view at the cost of the property holders, in accordance with the report of the committee. A long argument ensued, at the conclusion of which the matter was laid over.

The Viewers' report on the opening of Beech and Page streets was next considered.

Mr. Walton moved to quash, as he said times were hard, and the job was only wanted for the benefit of a few individuals on the street and contractors.

Mr. Slack said he thought that in view of the tight times, and there being no pressing want for the street, it should be quashed.

This view finally prevailed and the ordinance was defeated.

The ordinance requiring property holders to use public sewers under certain regularities and restrictions was next called up from the obscurity under which it has been hidden for many months and finally passed.

THE CITY PRINTING.

Mr. McRoberts now opened the ball by moving the reconsideration of the vote on the ordinance regulating the manner of letting the public newspapers printing.

Mr. Heagy contended that all person absent on the former meeting had no right to vote, and was in favor of squelching them.

Mr. Callery to bridge the matter moved a reconsideration, as he being present on the former evening and voting for the ordinance had a clear right to do so.

Mr. Huckestine delivered a speech in which he asserted that the opposing members were afraid to face the music and wanted to dodge. He contended that it was unseemly for Allegheny Councils to set themselves above the State Legislature.

Mr. Huckestine's remarks had the effect of "riling" Messrs. Heagy and Slack, and the discussion at this point became interesting.

Mr. Walton moved to adjourn.

Mr. Voegtly agreed with Mr. Huckestine that some members were afraid to face the music.

Mr. Voegtly contended that the ordinance had not been killed at the last meeting, but the President decided that they had no power to grant the request.

Mr. Callery said that in order to get something done he was willing to vote for three papers, and asked that the majority show their hand by proposing something, and accordingly he renewed the motion to reconsider, and it was agreed to, 10 to 7.

Ayes—Messrs. Callery, Huckestine, Hax, Knox, Kreiling, McRoberts, Slack, Walton-Wittmer, Voegtly.

Nays—Messrs. J. A. Cochran, Heagy, Hartman, McKelvey, Phillips, Smith, Patterson.

Mr. McKelvey then moved to amend so as to make the number of papers three, two English and one German.

Mr. Heagy moved to amend so as to make the papers two German, one English and one Welsh paper.

Mr. Callery said he had promised to vote for three papers, and hoped that the opposition would allow something to be done.

Mr. Slack moved to table Mr. Heagy's amendments. Agreed to.

The motion to make three papers the number then passed to second reading.

Mr. McKelvey moved to amend so as to take away from the Printing Committee the power to let the printing, and vest it in Councils, and also making some changes in prescribing the matter of displaying advertisements. With these amendments the ordinance was re-committed, and if Common Councils agree to them it may be passed this session.

The resolution passed in C. C. giving the stock dealers until October, 1876, to remove their yards in the Second ward or rather instructing the Mayor not to enforce the ordinance for removal until that time, was next considered. After considerable talk S. C. concurred.

Adjourned.

COMMON BRANCH.

Upon the call of wards a number of petitions, remonstrances, &c., were presented and referred. The following were the most important: Petition of citizens residing on Observatory, Nunnery and Monmogery Hills to furnish them with water supply; referred to Water Committee. Remonstrance against the Charles street re-shining wall; referred.

Select Council business was disposed of as follows: Ordinance for lateral sewer on Pine street, passed; ordinance for same on Pasture alley, laid over indefinitely; ordinance for same on Western avenue, passed; ordinance for the same on Arch street, passed; resolution to pay viewers on North alley, passed; ordinance for board walk on Iona street, passed; ordinance for sewer on Monterey street, passed; ordinance for lateral sewer on Davis alley, passed; ordinance providing for gates at railroad crossings west of Washington avenue, passed; ordinance providing for a temporary loan of $60,000, passed; viewers report on Troy Hill road.

CITY PRINTING AGAIN.

Mr. Erwin, from the Special Committee to which was referred the bills of certain newspapers, reported a resolution by which Council decided to pay the bills in part and concurs with the action of Select Council directing that the bills be allowed; passed.

The printing ordinance passed at a former meeting and which Select Council non-concurred, was taken up and on motion of Mr. Golden Council adhered to its former action and asked a committee of conference. Messrs. Erwin, Hartman and James Wilson were appointed on behalf of this branch.

The City Property Committee presented the plans which was received. The accompanying resolution, for the erection of a new engine house on the Seminary Hill property in the First ward, was adopted.

THE DROVE YARD NUISANCE.

Mr. Bedell presented a resolution asking that the Mayor be instructed to postpone for the present the enforcement of the resolution for the removal of the drove yards.

Mr. Cochran was in favor of the resolution if the time was limited to six months. He suggested that the date be fixed July 1st. Mr. Bedell accepted this amendment.

Mr. Maguire wanted the time to be extended to October 1st. July was too warm for the removal.

Mr. Price, Mr. Erwin in the chair, made a strong appeal for the enforcement of the ordinance. It had been passed unanimously by Councils.

Mr. Golden argued on the other side, taking the ground that in these times it was wrong to take action to crush any man or set of men.

Mr. Stone pointed out the folly of taking such action; it would be a nullity, because, unless the Mayor and Police Committee of the Second ward could override any recommendation of Councils and go before any magistrate and sue the drovers.

Mr. Drum stated that he would favor the extension of time if his constituents had any guarantee that the drovers would be ready to move when the time was up.

Mr. Sholes moved that the matter be laid over until the next meeting in order that the people of the Second ward and the drovers could make arrangements to suit all parties.

Mr. Bedell accepted Mr. McGuire's amendment making the time October 1, 1876, and the motion in that form carried.

The report of the Committee on Ordinances was received. The accompanying ordinance defining the duties of the City Engineer and the attaches of that department, passed.

The Committee on Poor Farm reported favorably to the sale, privately, of a small piece of ground in old Poor Farm plan, and an accompanying ordinance to that effect passed.

Adjourned.

THE PARDON BOARD.

Cases of Myers, Dr. Hunter, Armstrong and Guscetti, and Others.

The Board of Pardons have recommended the following persons for pardon:

James A. Hunter, assault, Allegheny county.

George E. McGowen, perjury, Allegheny county.

Dr. James Aiken, attempt to produce an abortion, Chester county.

Thomas Dowling, assault, Allegheny county.

S. L. Hollister, forgery, Erie county.

James Sheldon, assault, Allegheny county.

Ralph Parks, John J. Maloney, John R. Joyce, Thomas Burnsdell and Ringo Parks, riot, Clearfield county, to be pardoned on the 21st inst.

The following applications were refused, viz.:

Melvin Root, larceny, Crawford county.

William Hite, rape, Crawford county.

Frederick Madison, entering a building with intent to commit a felony, Allegheny county.

Theodore Swisher, aggravated assault, Blair county.

No final action was taken upon the remaining applications.

The Board will meet again on the 21st instant, when a hearing will be had on the application for a commutation of the death penalty in the case of Frederick Myers, to be executed here on the 6th of January.

The case of Charles Armstrong and Frederick Guscetti, convicted of riot, in the Westmoreland County Court, will also come up on an application for pardon. The parties are to receive their sentence next Saturday. Should this sentence be a severe one, an application for pardon will be made before the Board. It is said that the costs will amount to the large sum of $2,500.

ALLEGHENY BOARD OF CONTROL.

That Stunning Report—Tyranny—Personal Liberty.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

Will you allow me to say a word with regard to the resolution to be brought before the Allegheny Board of Control, next Tuesday?

"*Resolved*, That teachers require new methods from time to time, which can hardly be obtained without diligently reading the periodicals devoted to their art, and that, in the opinion of this Board, no teacher who fails to take one or more of the current educational periodicals can stand very high in their profession."

In the city of Pittsburgh there are about four hundred and ten teachers, of which number about sixty-six absolutely refuse to pay the small sum required from each teacher for the support of our institutes and other educational associations, and are very seldom present at these meetings. We recently made inquiry, and have from reliable authority, that of this number of delinquents, only two are considered to be good teachers. They are fault finders, chronic grumblers, dead weights to the profession. It requires the blind, we should say, of about twenty live teachers, to counteract the harm done by one of these laggards of the profession. We venture to say that every few of this class of teachers, either read a daily secular paper, or monthly educational journal—in fact we believe a thorough investigation would reveal the truth, that but few of them are interested in their work beyond the mere "killing of time," until pay day arrives.

From our observations in Allegheny City, believe this class is proportionately much larger. Indeed, so poorly are their institutes supported, that the last attempt to hold an institute a few days ago, proved an entire failure. Teachers there neither pay their institute dues, nor support them by their attendance.

Now what editor in this city, or any other city, will dare advocate the doctrine that Teachers' Institutes, and Teachers' Journals, for advancement and improvement in the profession are useless? Now, will they not agree with us, when we say that they are as valuable auxilliaries to the teachers' work as medical associations, and medical journals are to the physicians work? Why then, should not our directors look after these laggards, and when discovered drop them, and put live progressive teachers, who *will read up, and study up*, and *keep up*, with the *onward movement* in the responsible work of teaching in their places? We do not believe in compulsory measures in affairs of this nature. No civil code will make an intemperate man temperate, a vicious man truly virtuous, or successfully drive a man to duty. If he lived out the law of right which is written on the heart, if he heed not the dictates of his own conscience, his case is hopeless.

We hope that school directors will do just as we believe Mr. Marthens is endeavoring to do, find out those teachers who *will* not *read, study*, and conscientiously and zealously labor in their profession, and *drop them*. That is the remedy, and directors must enforce it. We, as a teacher, pay our fees for the support of educational associations, and besides laboring six hours in the school room, daily, we labor six hours daily, for the cause of education, outside of the school room, for which (outside labor) we receive no pay, and we feel that it is unjust to those who "pay their dues" and do the work, for so many of our co-workers to go "scott free," and are only happy when pay day arrives.

TEACHER.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

Pittsburgh Opera House.

"Cynthia, the Gipsy Queen," was presented for the second time last evening, by Mlle. Marie Zoe and the Opera House Company, and again before a very sim ilar audience. The play is interesting enough to hold and please an average crowd.

To-night, for her benefit, Mlle. Zoe will play *Esmeralda*, in the "Hunchback of Notre Dame," a character in which she appears to much advantage.

Library Hall—Miss Dargon's Reading.

At Library Hall, this evening, Miss Augusta L. Dargon, a lady held in high esteem not only for her abilities as an actress, but for her excellences in social life, will give a series of readings at Library Hall in the Mercantile Library Lecture course. First on the programme come scenes from "Macbeth." Then follows the "Chase Speech," from "London Assurance." Then comes Tennyson's "Charge of the Light Brigade," followed by the curse scene from "Deborah." After this she concludes part first with reading Watson Coleman's "Beautiful Snow." part second opens with a scene from Tennyson's "Queen Mary," never before read in Pittsburgh. Next comes "Fontenay; or, Charge of the 93d Irish Brigade," and the entertainment will end with a recitation of Hood's "Last Heir." Miss Dargon has been starring lately with Tennyson's "Queen Mary," and her reading this evening